

# FAIRY TAIL

27

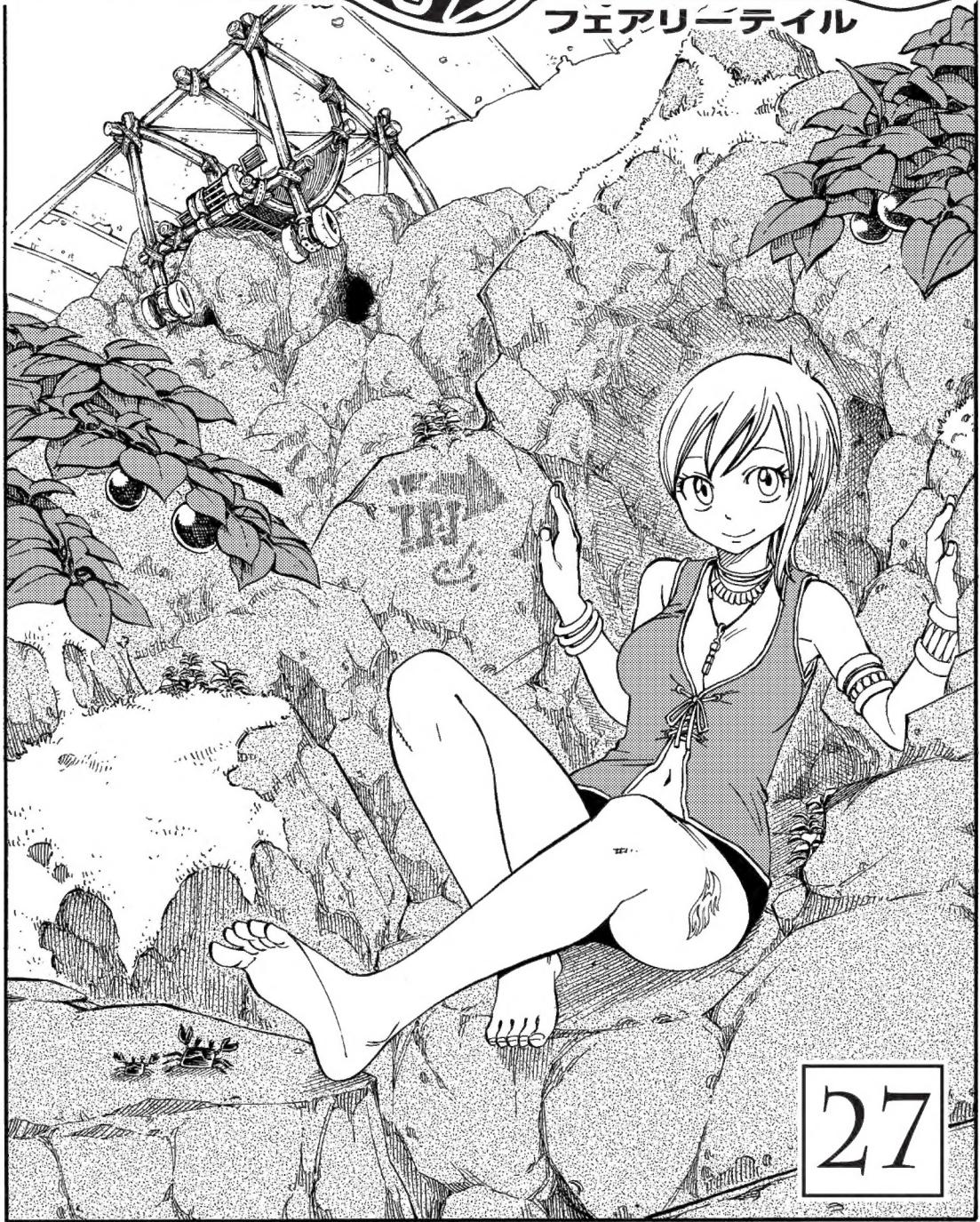


Hiro Mashima  
Creator of *Rave Master*



# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル



27

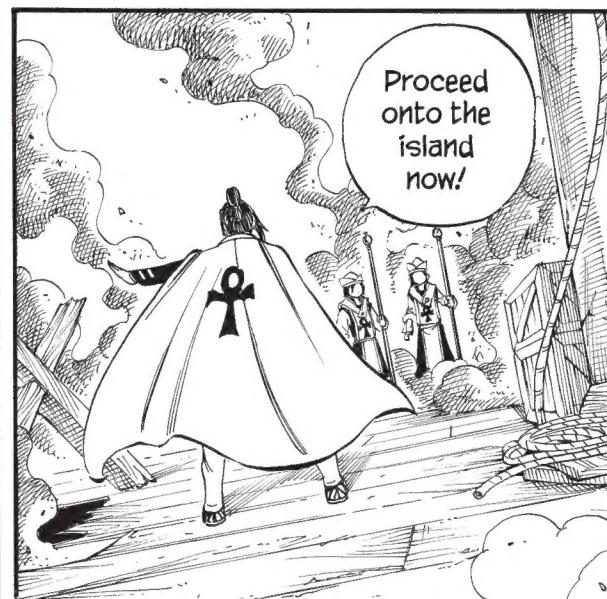
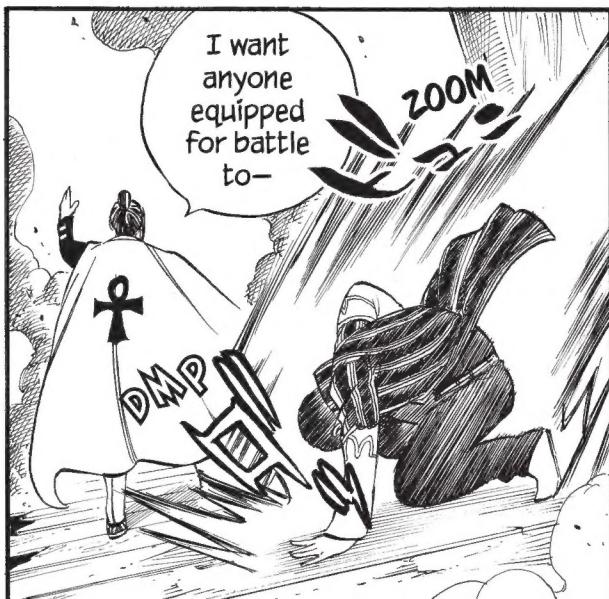
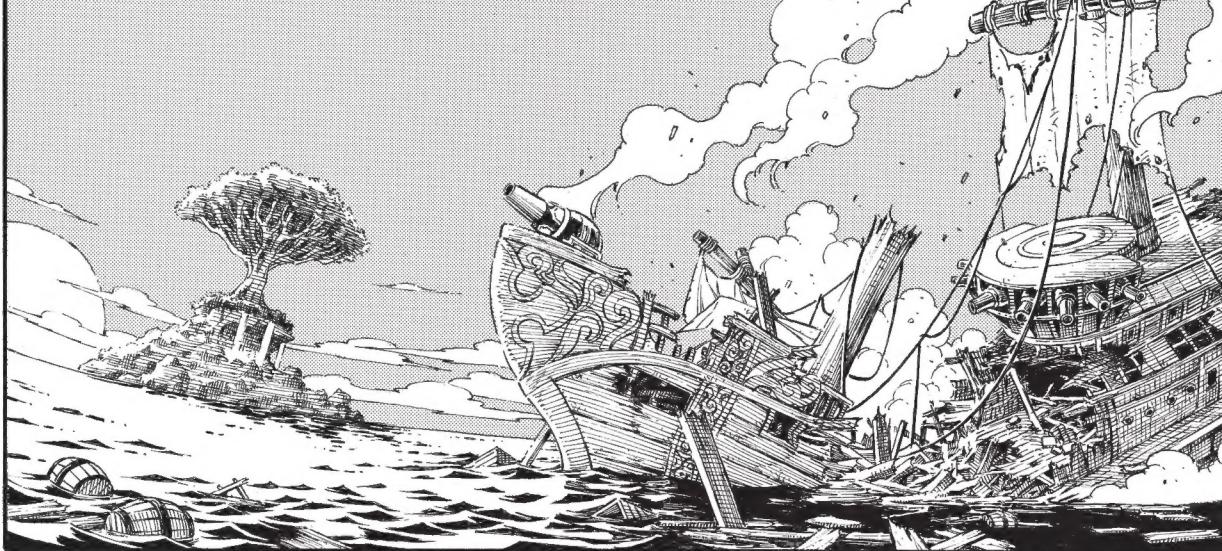
HIRO MASASHIMA

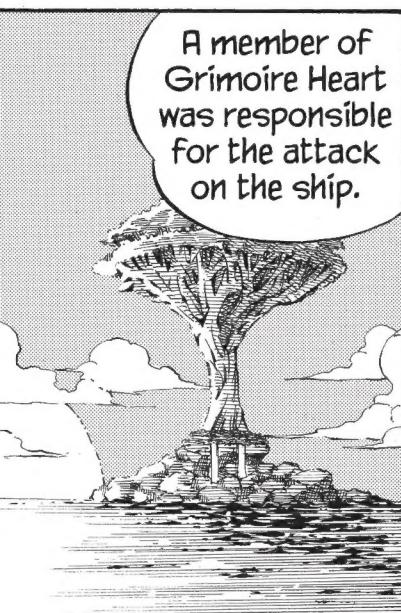
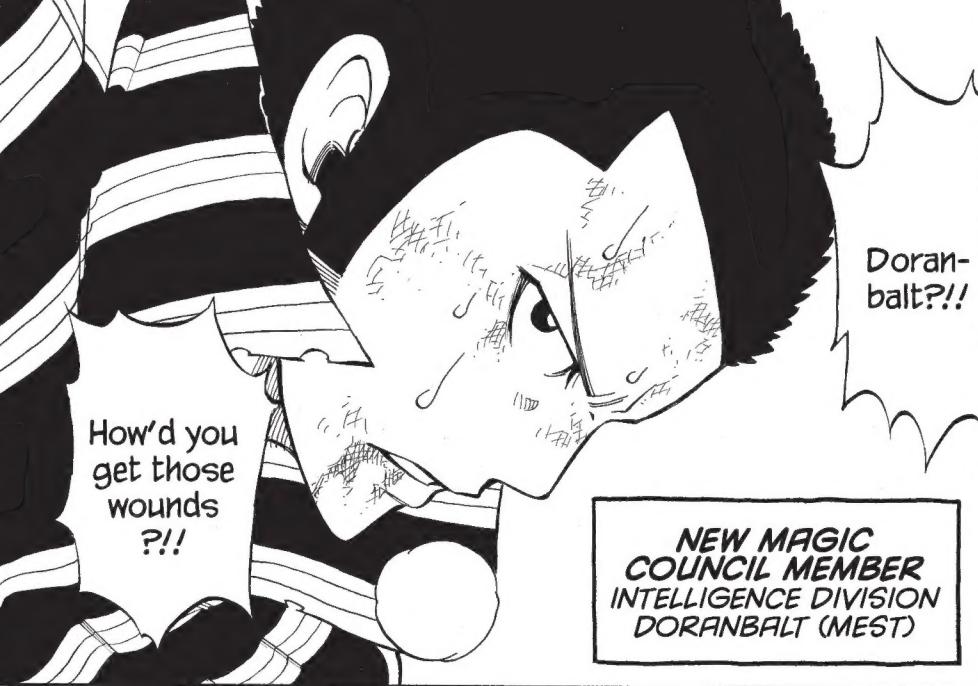


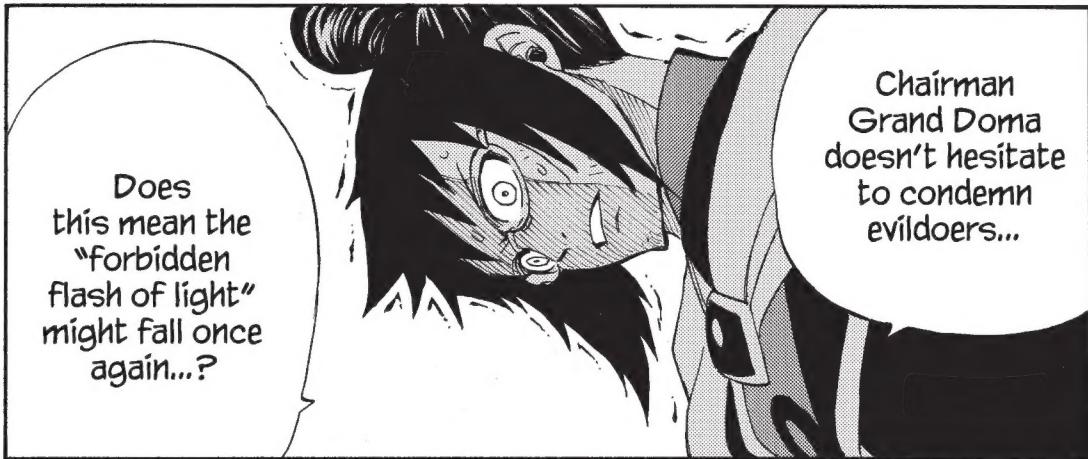
<b>Chapter 223: The Human Gate</b>	3
<b>Chapter 224: The Ambition of Zoldio</b>	23
<b>Chapter 225: The Open Seam</b>	43
<b>Chapter 226: A Curse of Vengeance</b>	63
<b>Chapter 227: Lucy Fire</b>	83
<b>Chapter 228: Rain Soaked the 13th Woman</b>	103
<b>Chapter 229: Dead End of Despair</b>	137
<b>Chapter 230: Tears of Love and Vitality</b>	157
<b>Translation Notes</b>	191

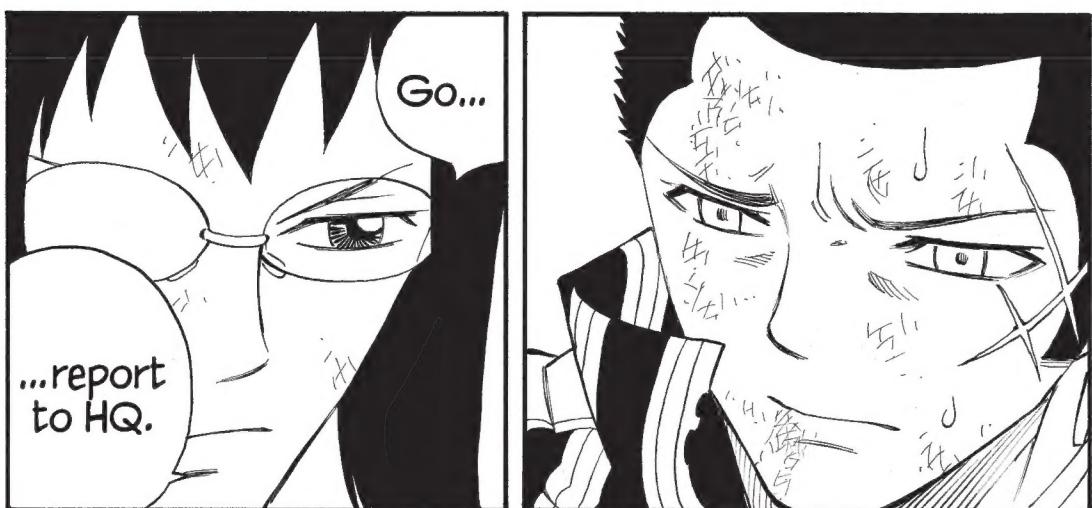
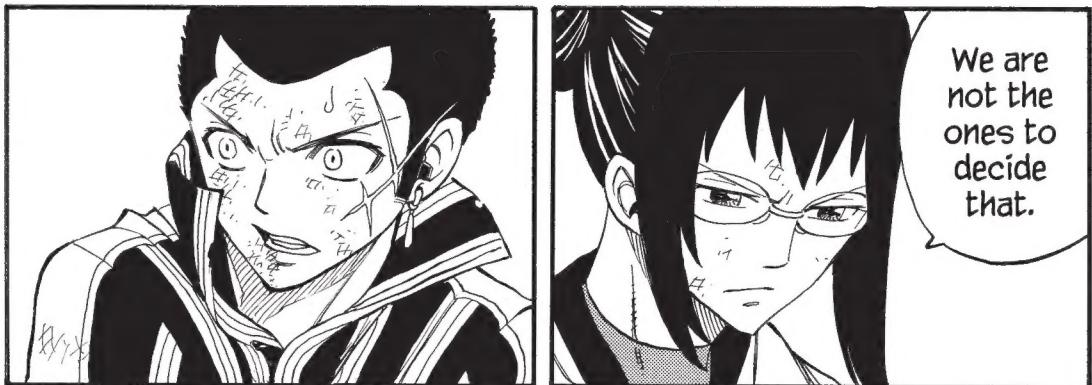


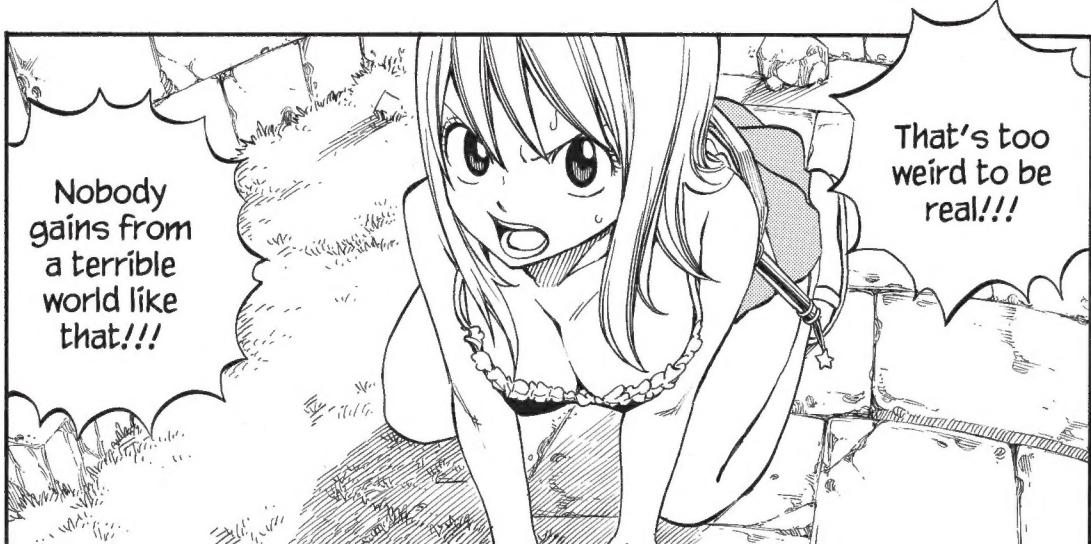
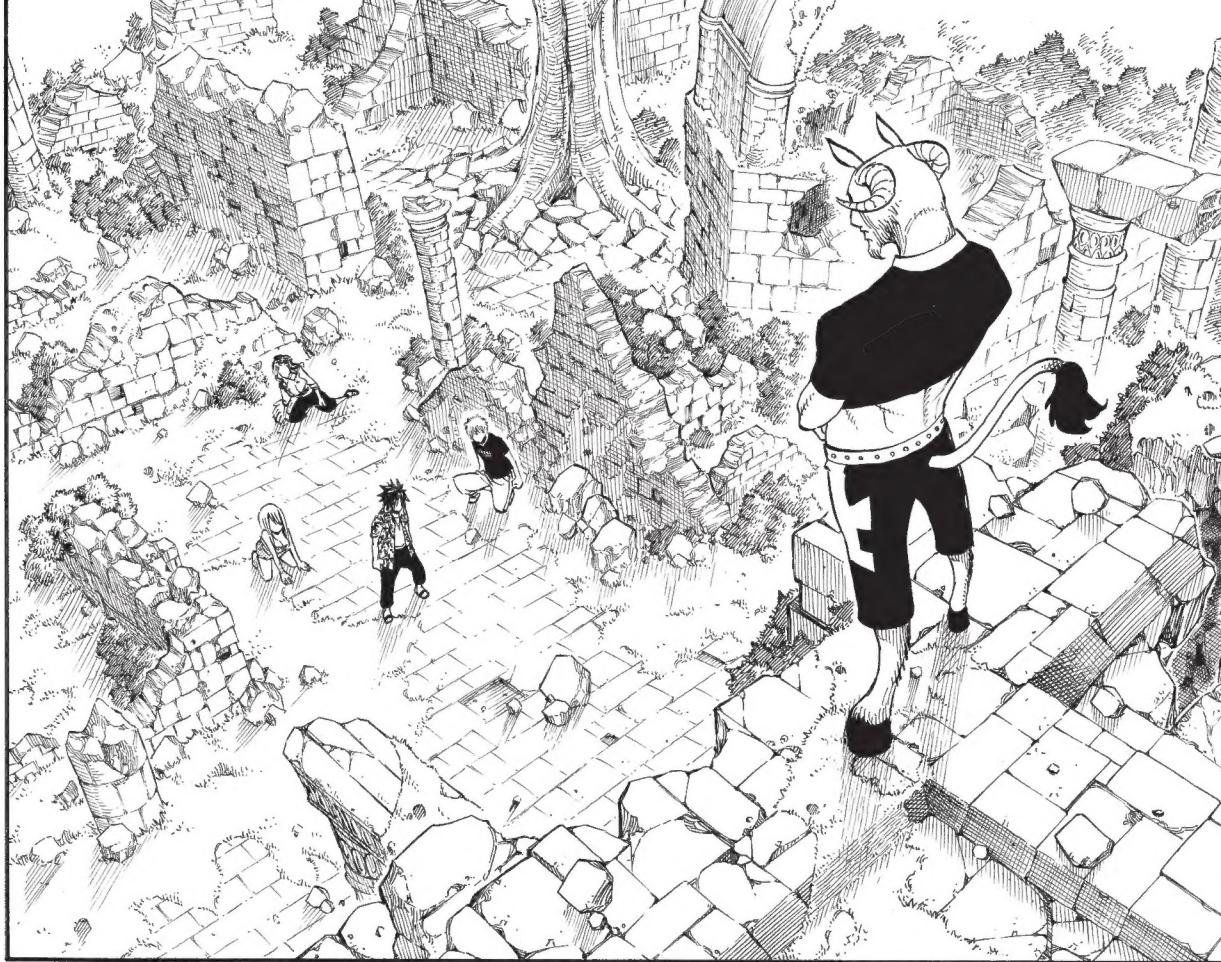
**Chapter 223: The Human Gate**



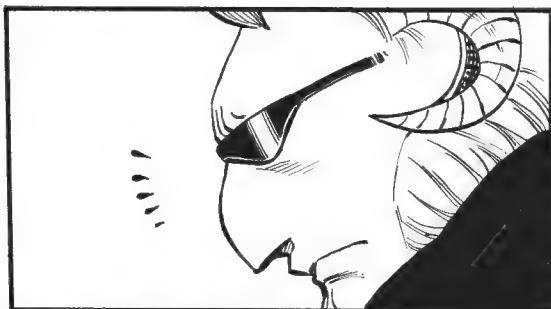
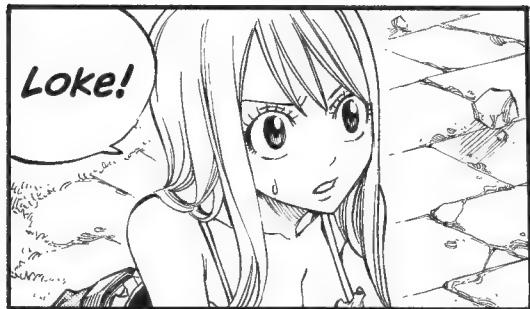












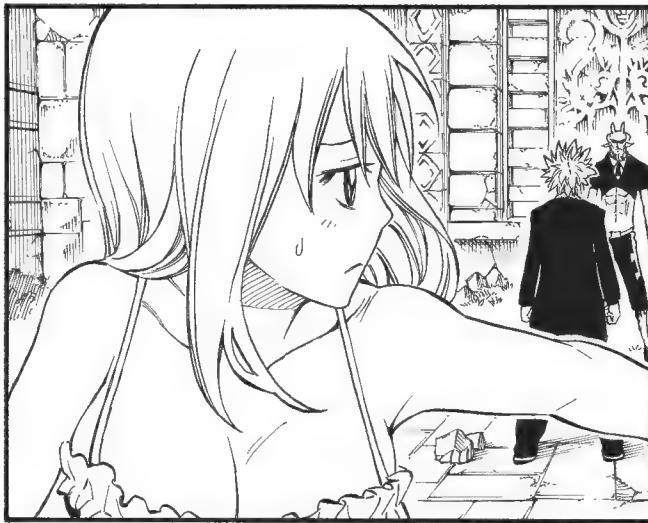






GO  
NOW  
!!!

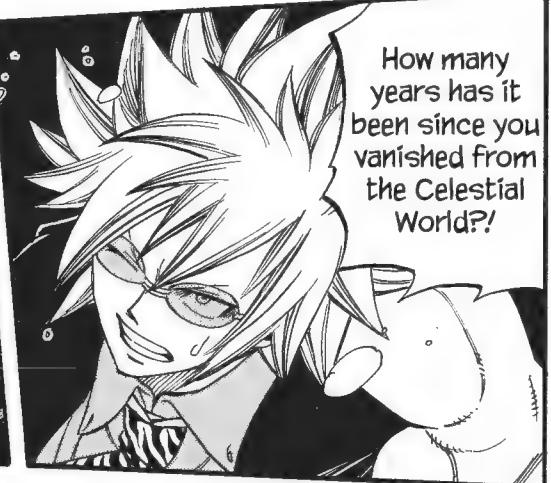
If it's a fight between Celestial Spirits, then I have to-





Ngah!









In the Revolution of Rubengard of X779, General Sun Zhao Xin was the young hero who led the anti-government forces.



Wh-What was that ...?!



Bah! He actually became my subordinate!



According to official records, he vanished just following the war.



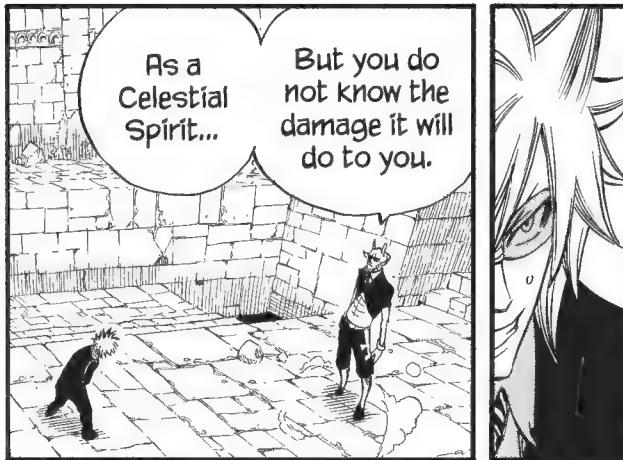
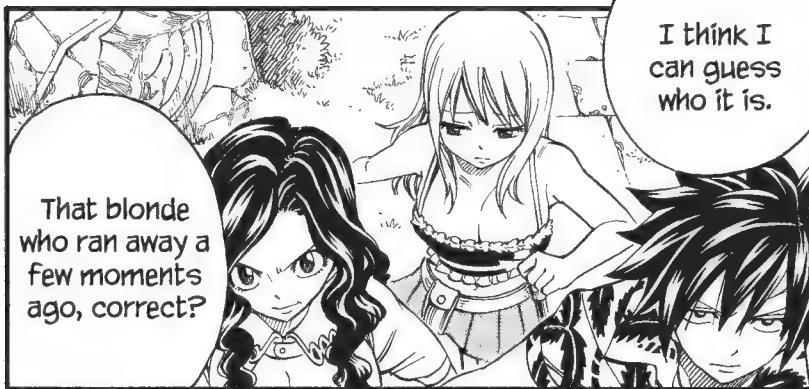
And now, I think we should discuss your owner.

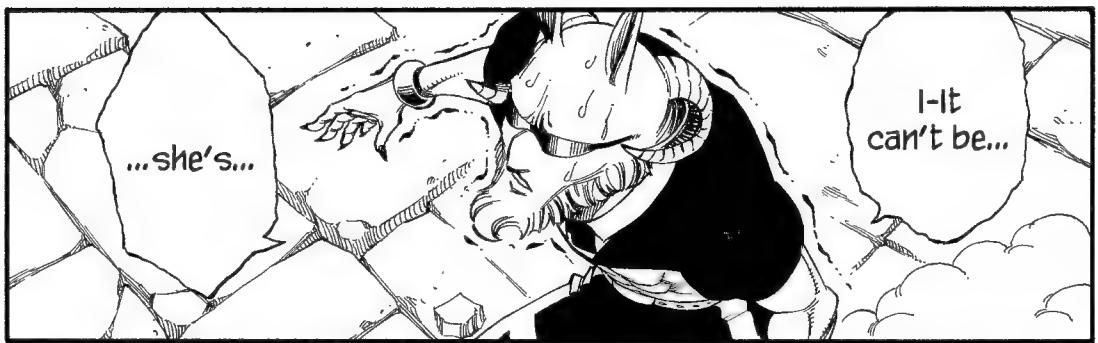
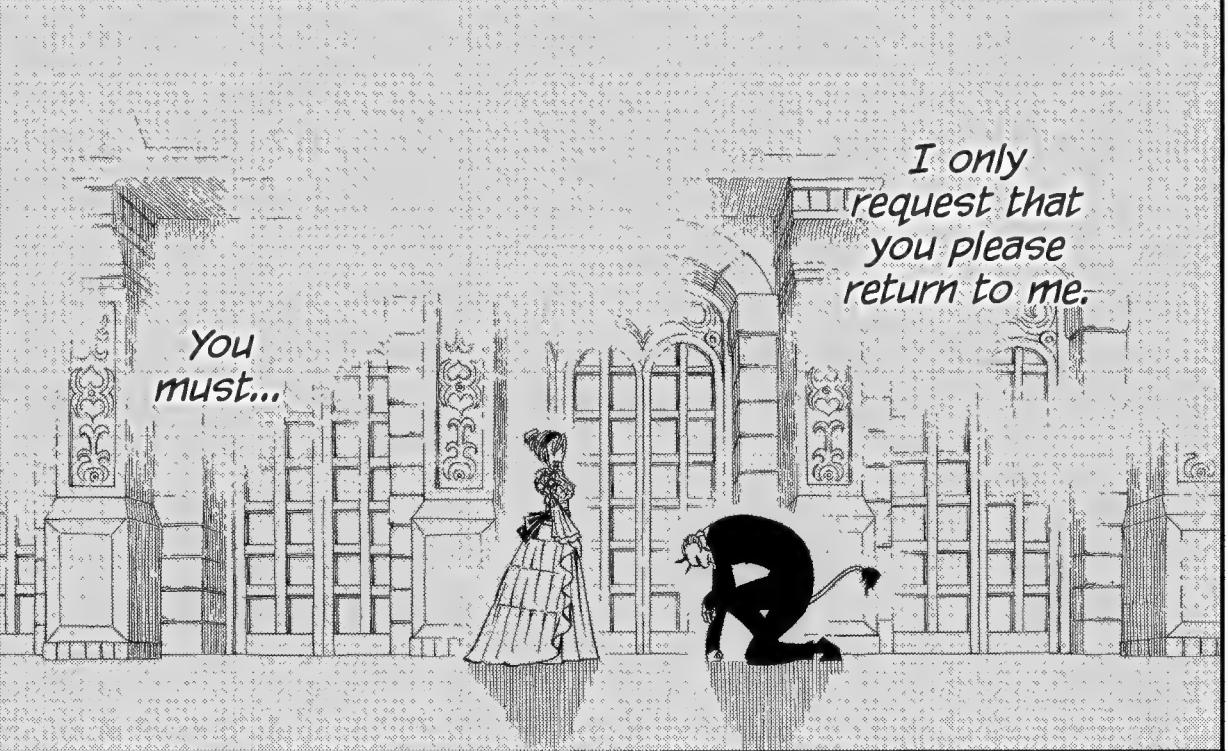


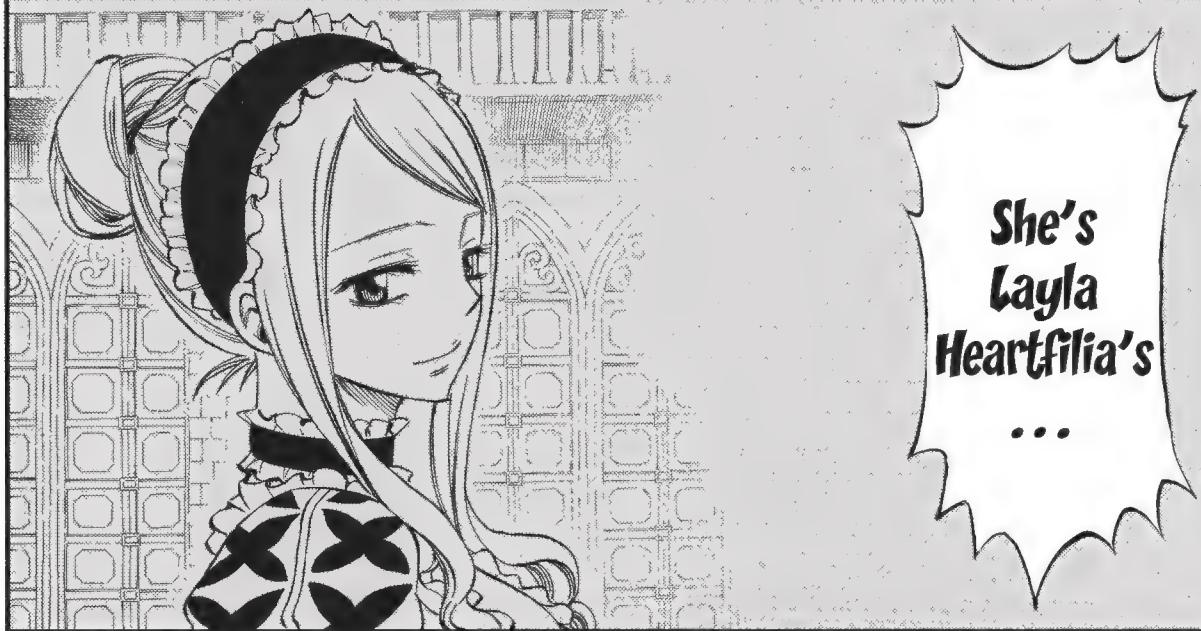
You took a human ...?!

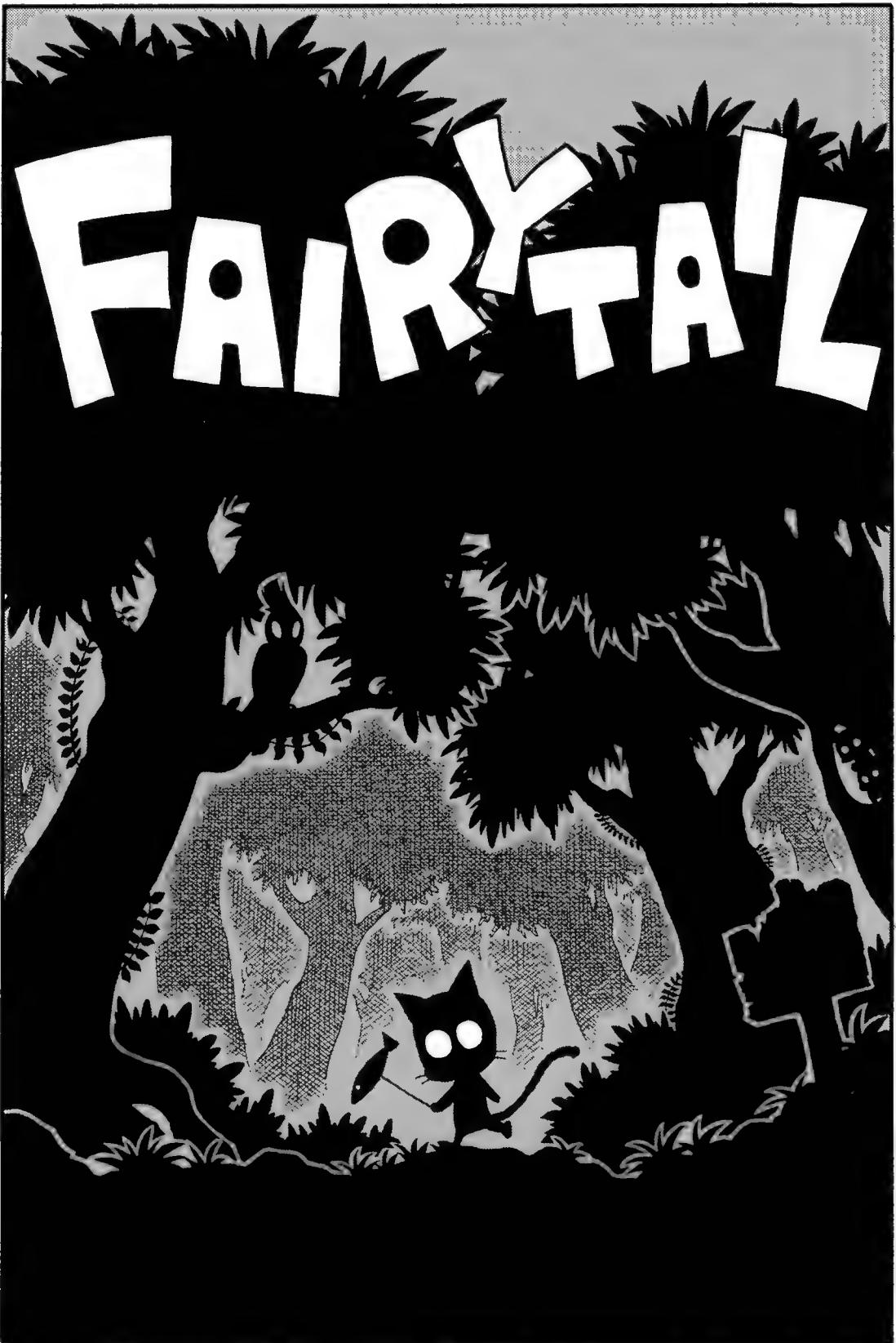


You can summon humans ...?!



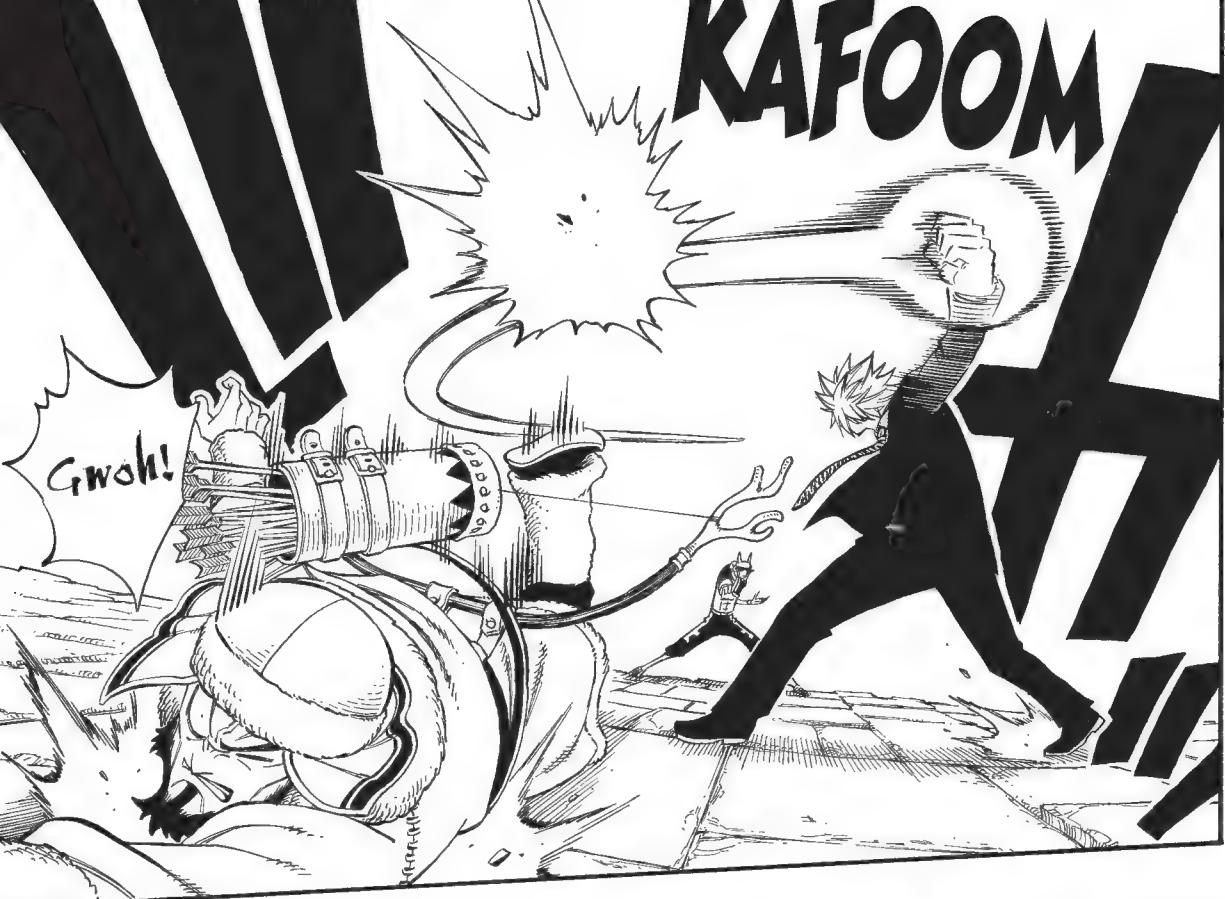






**Chapter 224: The Ambition of Zoldio**







And I  
don't know  
what kind of  
arrangements  
you have in the  
human world  
now, but...

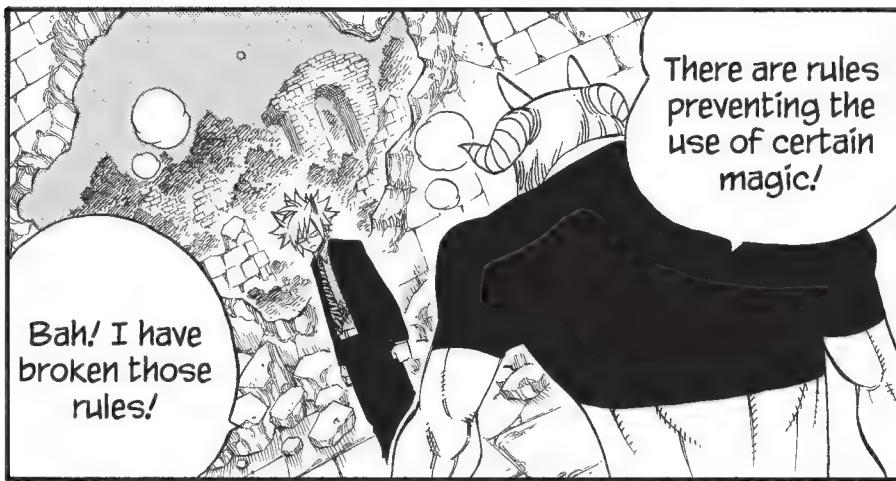
According  
to what  
Crux  
says...

...you formed  
a contract  
with Layla 20  
years ago!

Of course,  
you didn't  
recognize  
her.

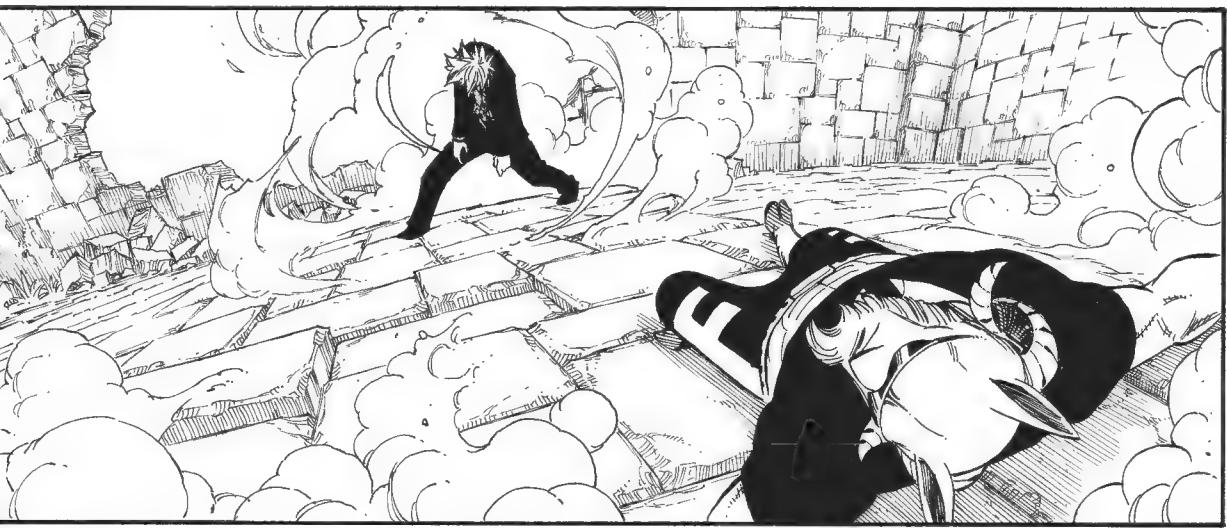
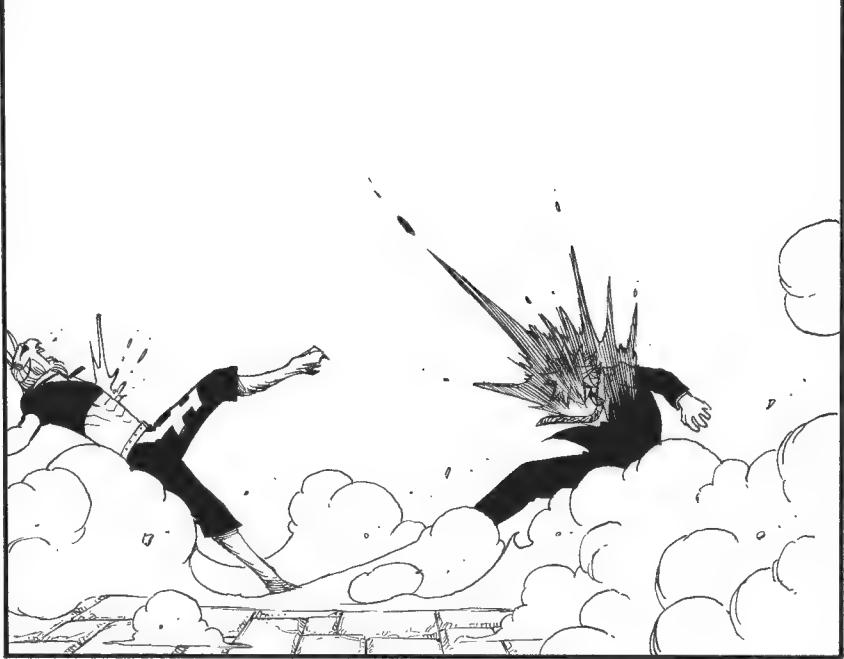
That means  
your current  
owner is  
Layla's  
daughter,  
Lucy!

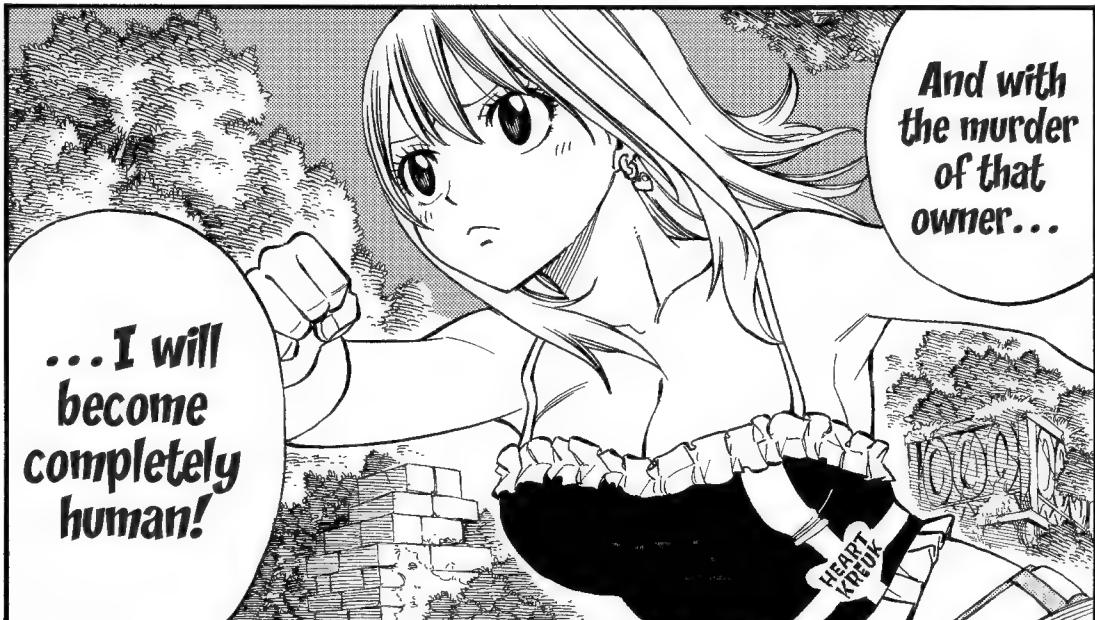












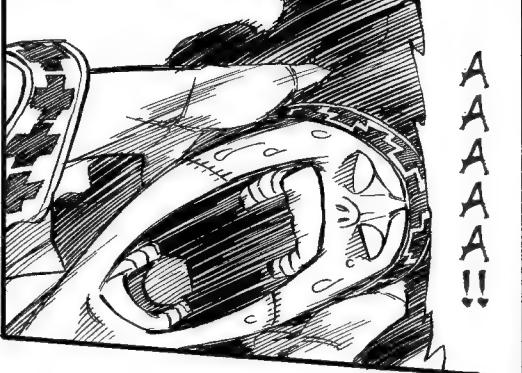


That's right!  
Lucy trusts  
this form  
intrinsically.  
So an ambush  
is the right  
move.

Or maybe  
I'll just make  
her into a  
subordinate  
and have some  
fun... She's as  
beautiful as  
Layla was!

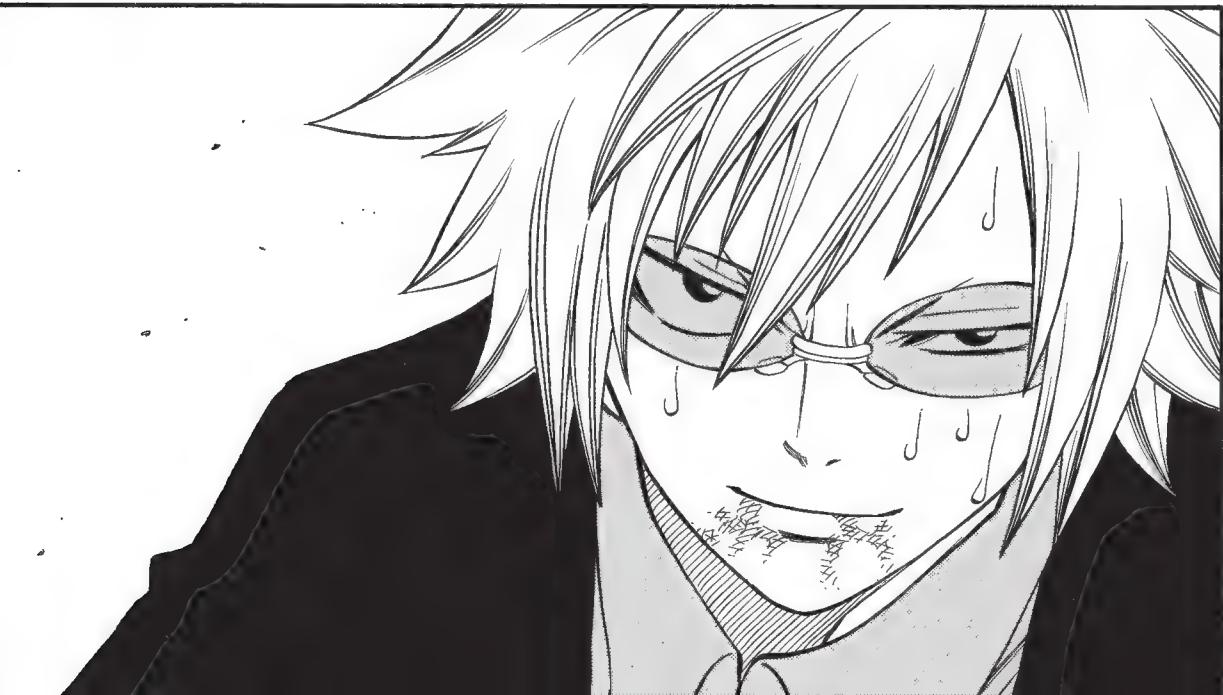
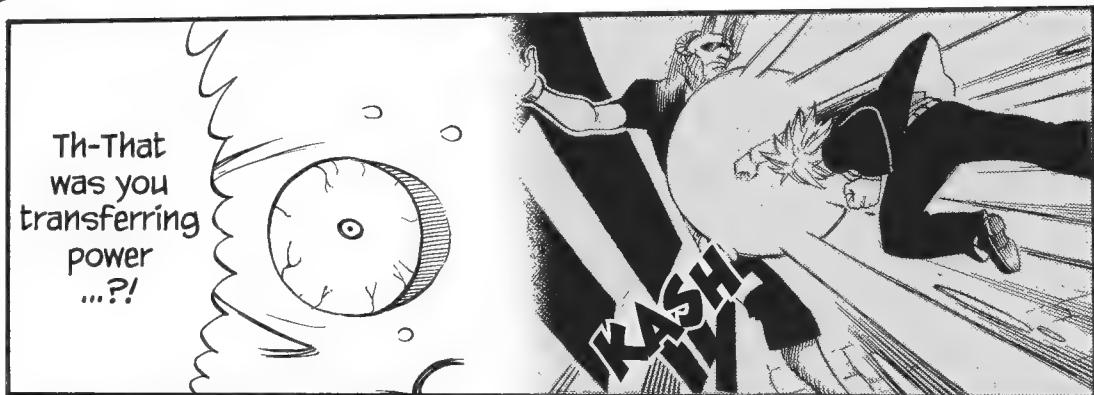


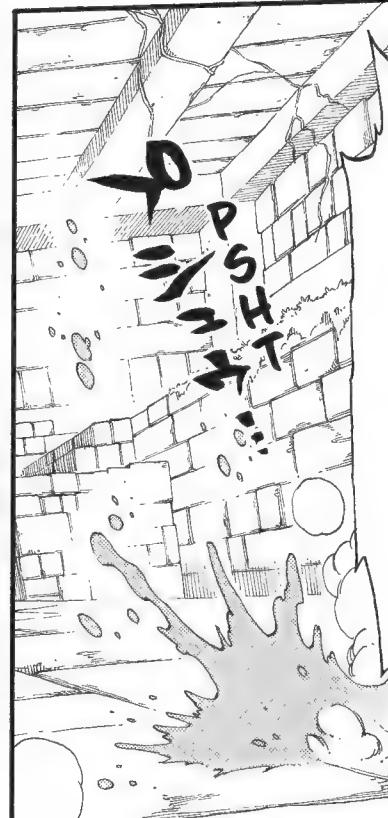






Just prior  
to the fusion  
between  
Zoldio and  
Sir Leo...

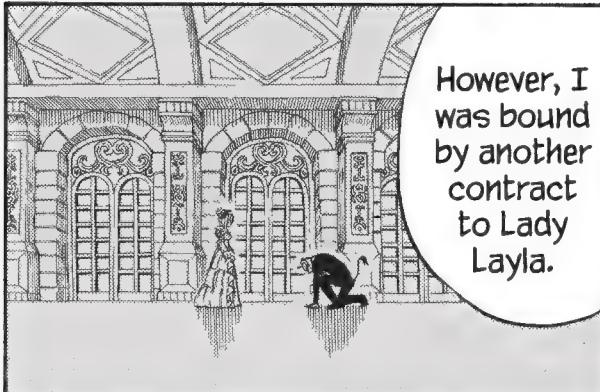






...were split among three people in her employ.

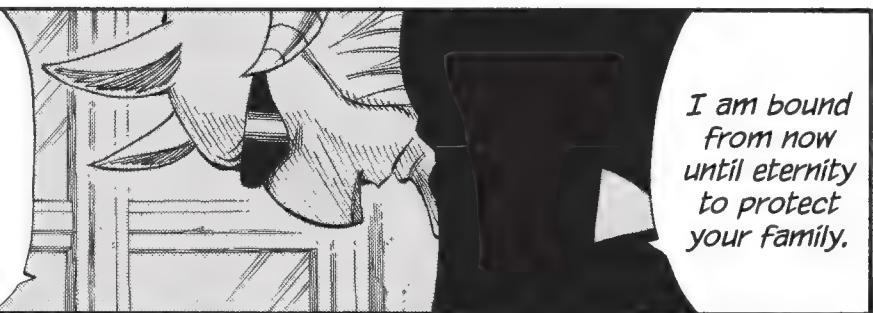
As a result, her three spirits: myself, Aquarius and Cancer...



However, I was bound by another contract to Lady Layla.

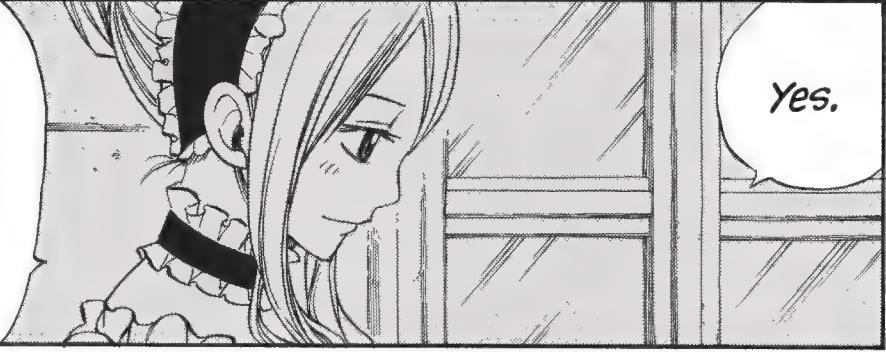


My key was given to one of them, a man named Zoldio.



And if, by chance, one of your line should ever follow the path of magic...

I am bound from now until eternity to protect your family.



When that happens, please grant that child your strength, Capricorn.

Yes.



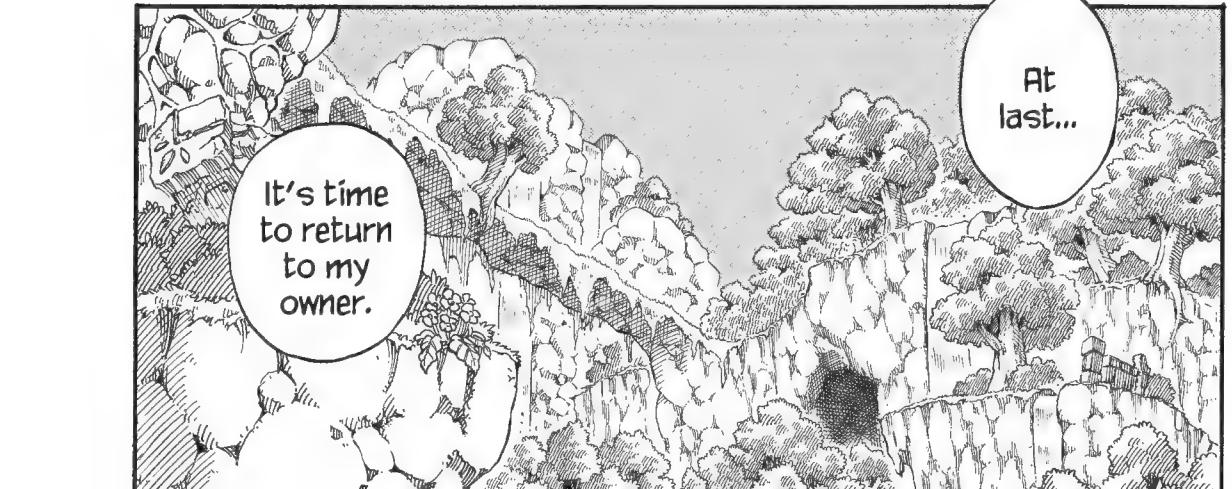


I cannot lend  
Lady Lucy my  
power...



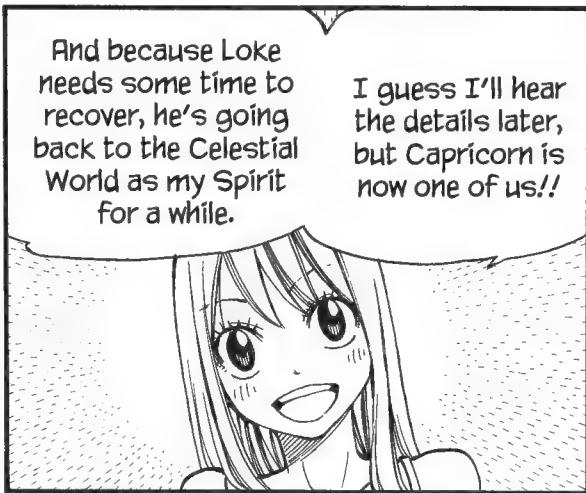
...  
belongs  
to her  
already.

My  
power  
...



It's time  
to return  
to my  
owner.

At  
last...

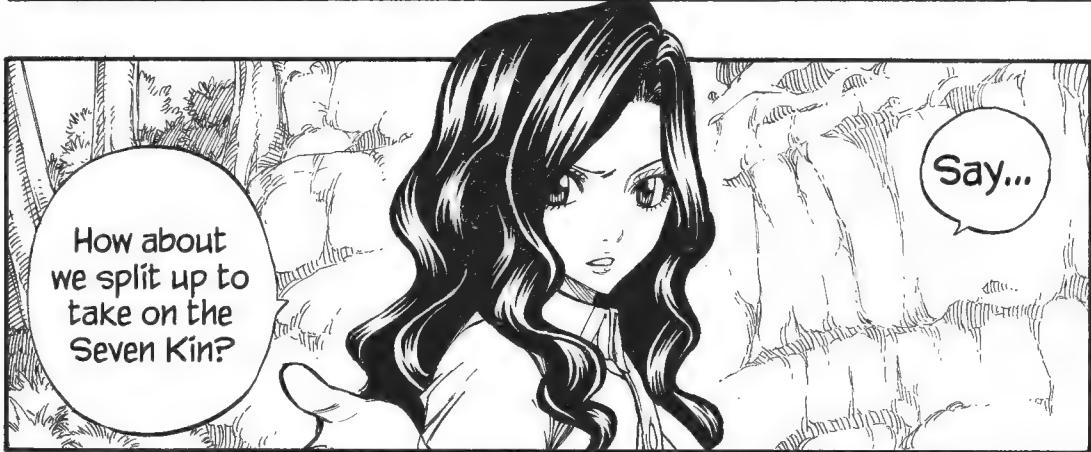
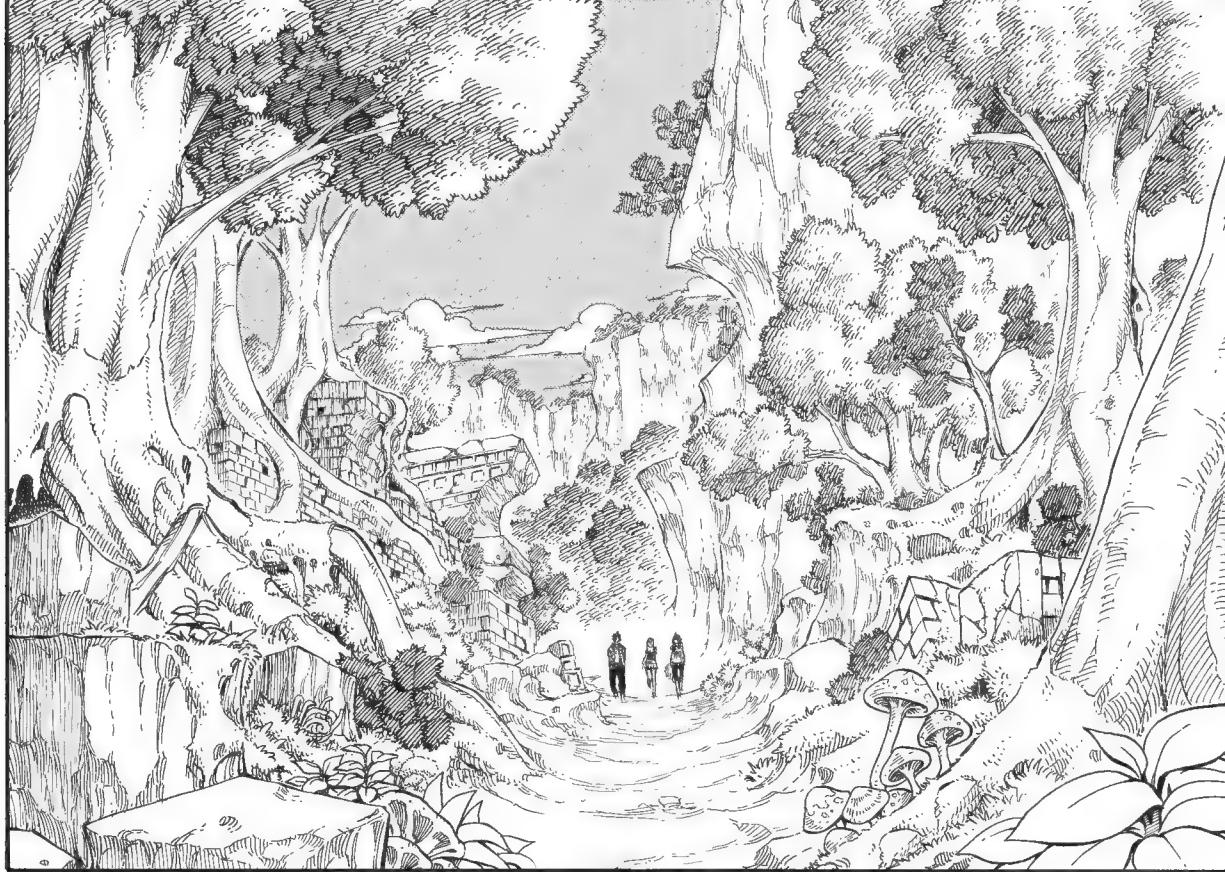


# FAIRY TAIL

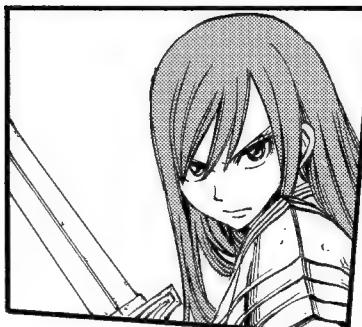
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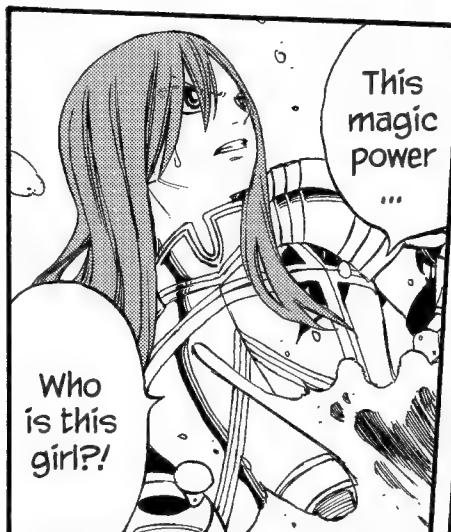


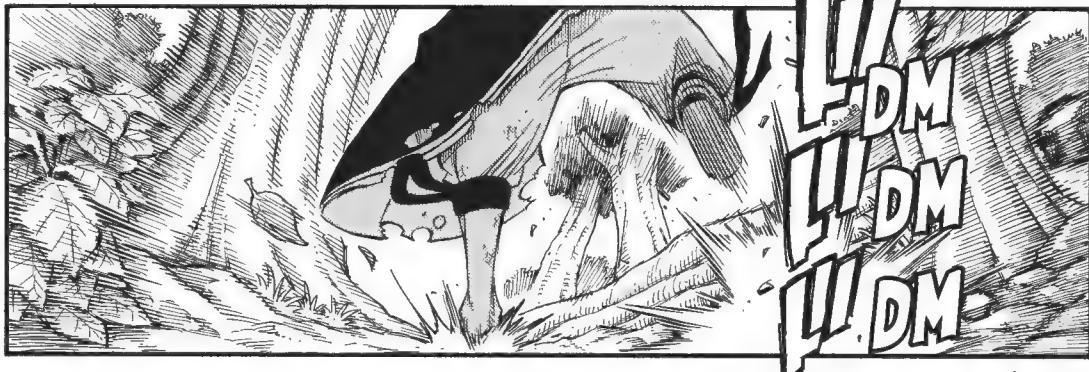
**Chapter 225: The Open Seam**





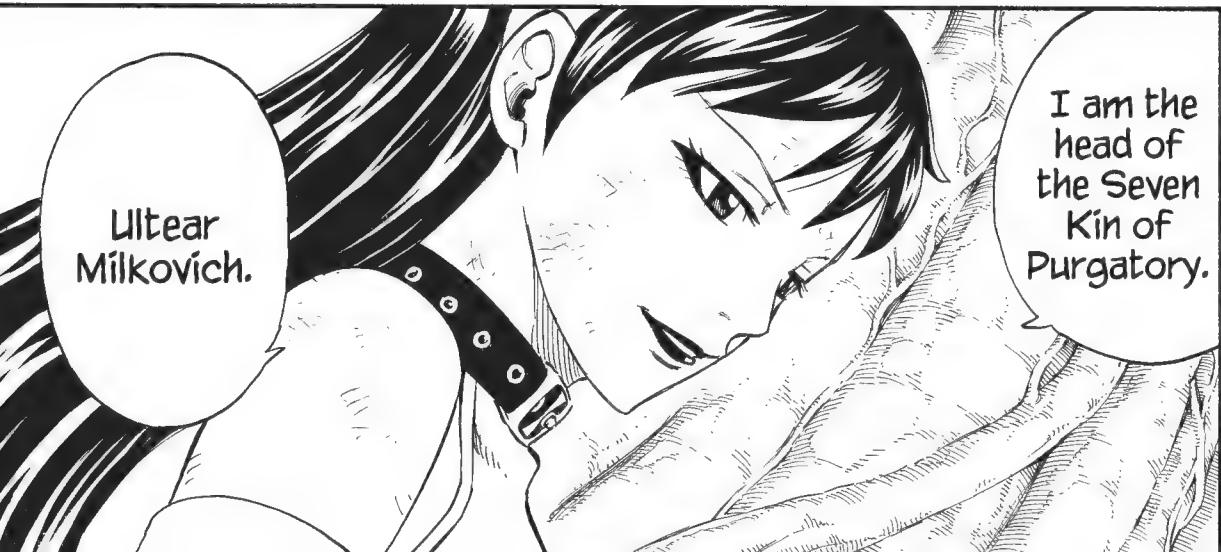




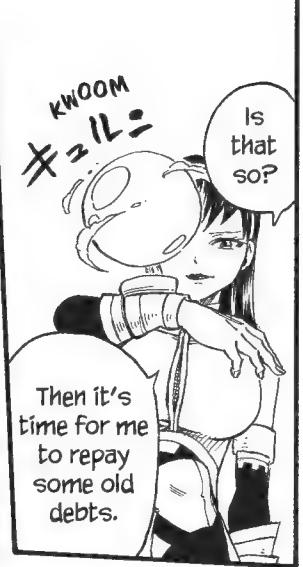


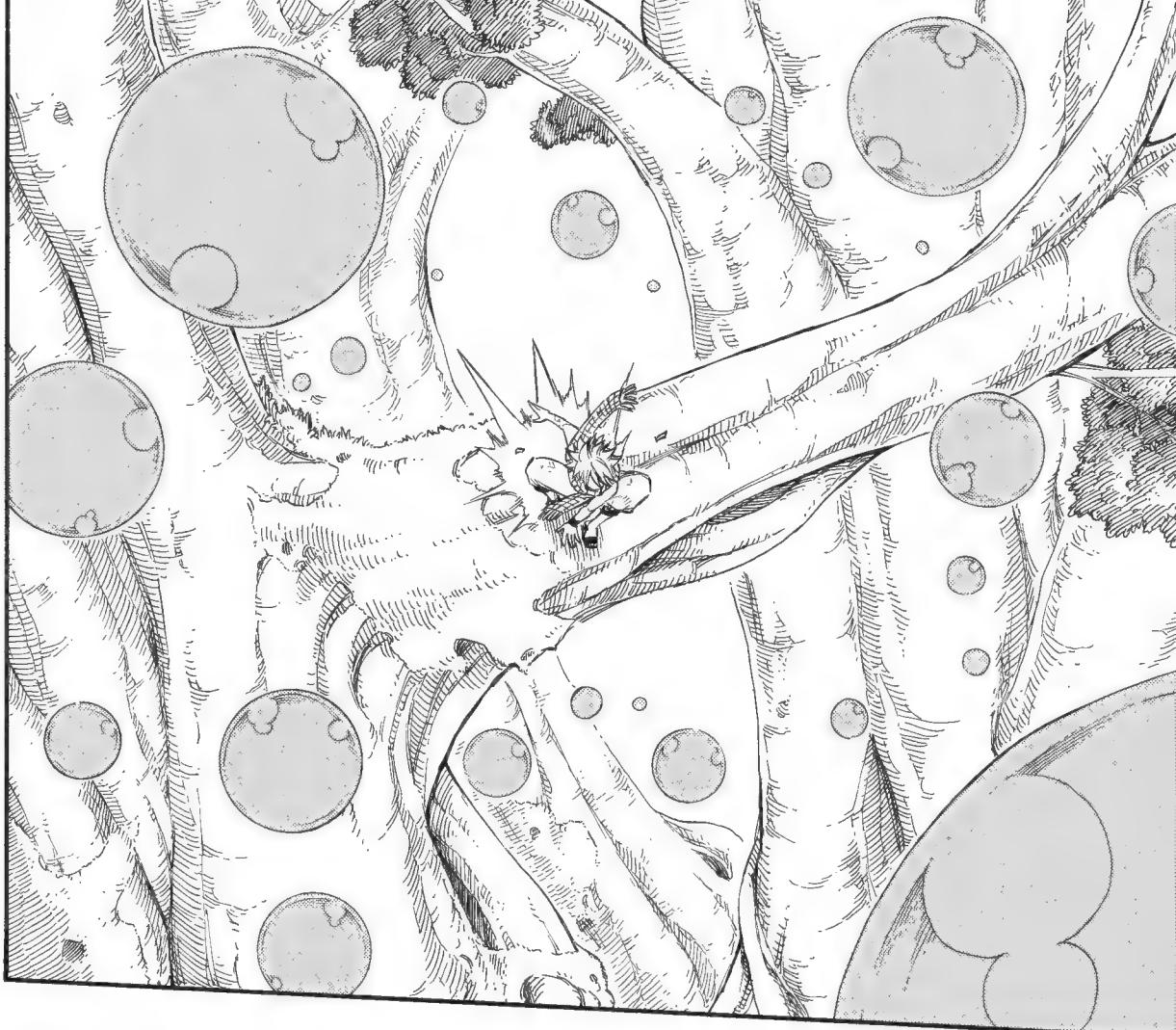














**FLASH  
FORWARD**  
!!!!

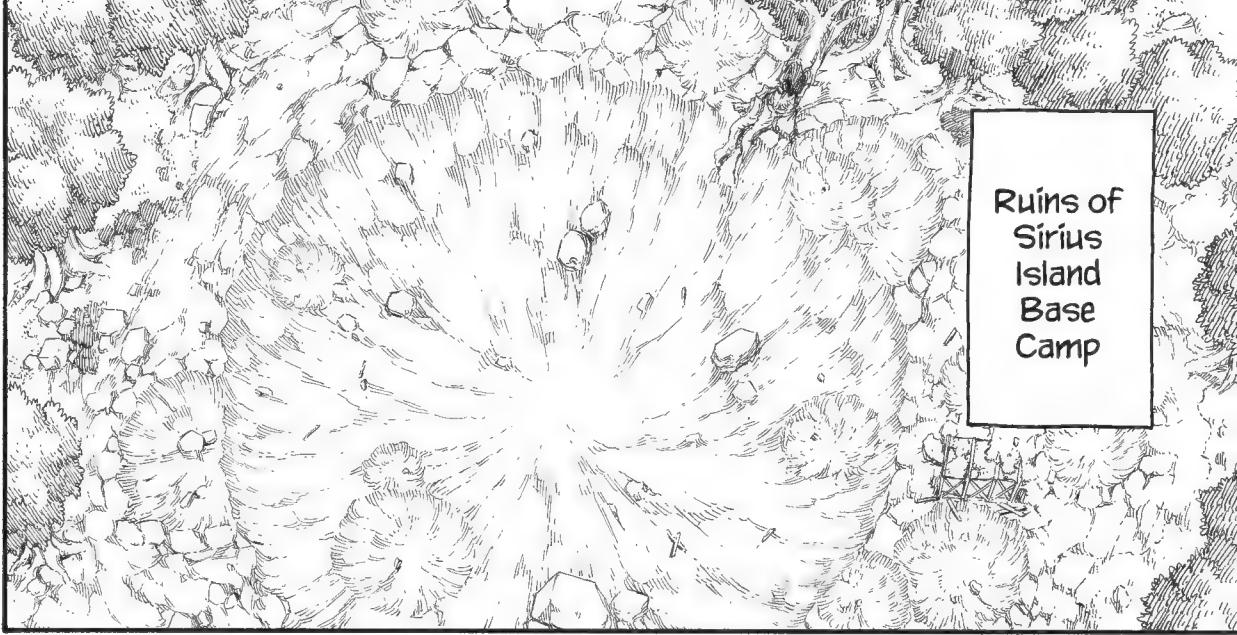
Waahh  
!!!!

There's  
a lot  
more to  
come!

The fun  
is just  
starting!



Natsu  
!!!

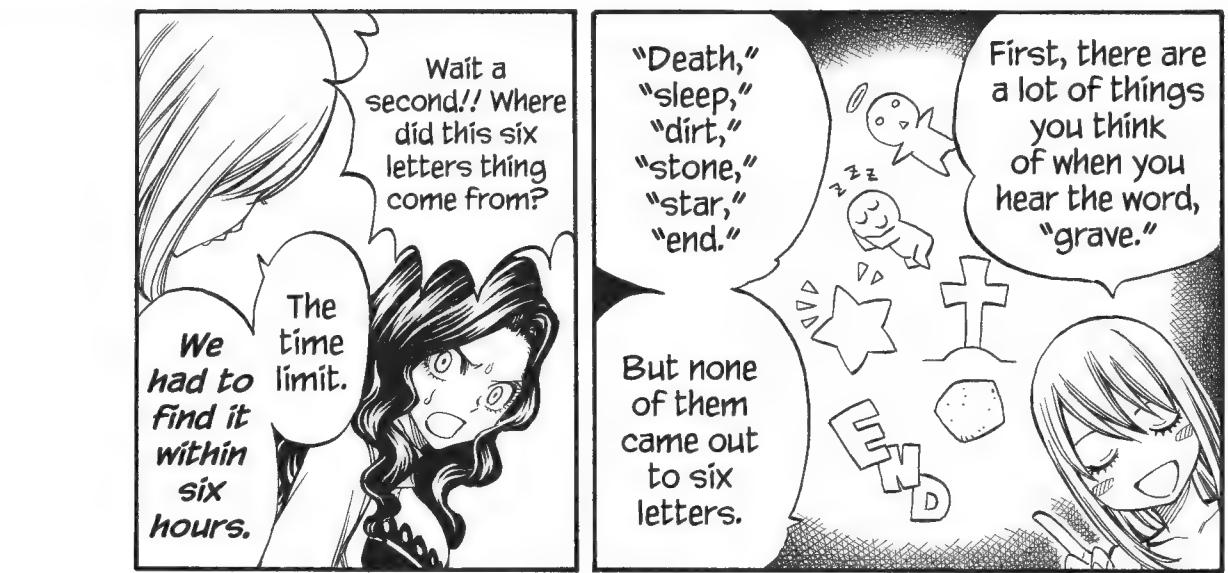


# Ruins of Sirius Island Base Camp









E!

That's the only letter that appears twice, the e. I thought that was a little strange.

This part's just a hunch, but when you look at the word, there's one letter that sticks out.

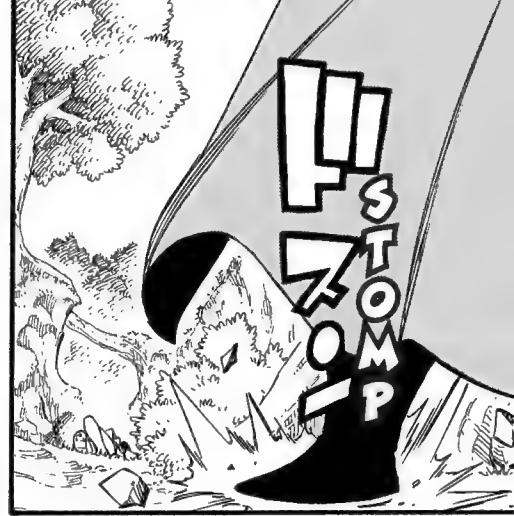


One of them was an E...

Do you remember how the paths we chose at the very beginning were all marked with letters?





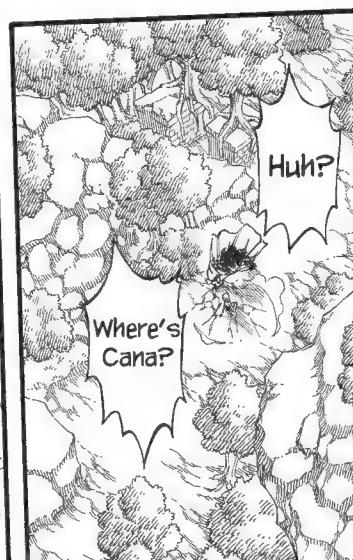


# FAIRY TAIL

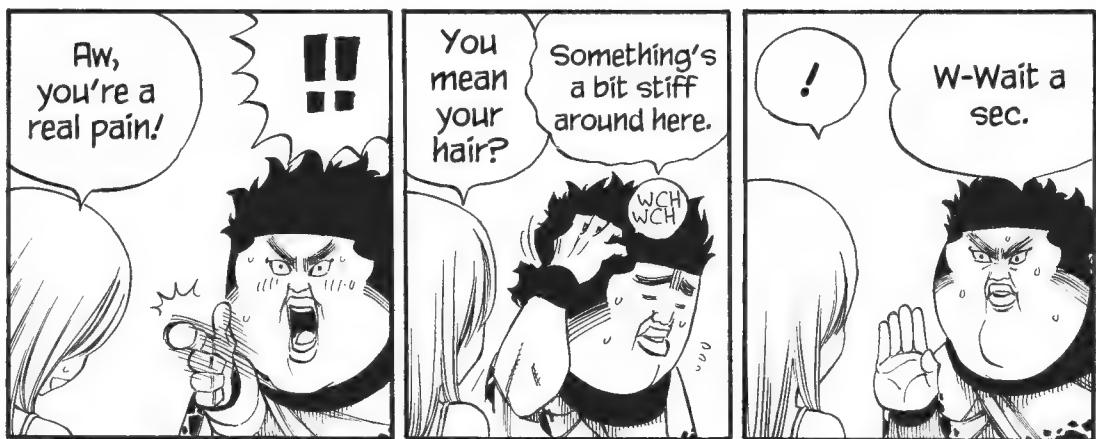


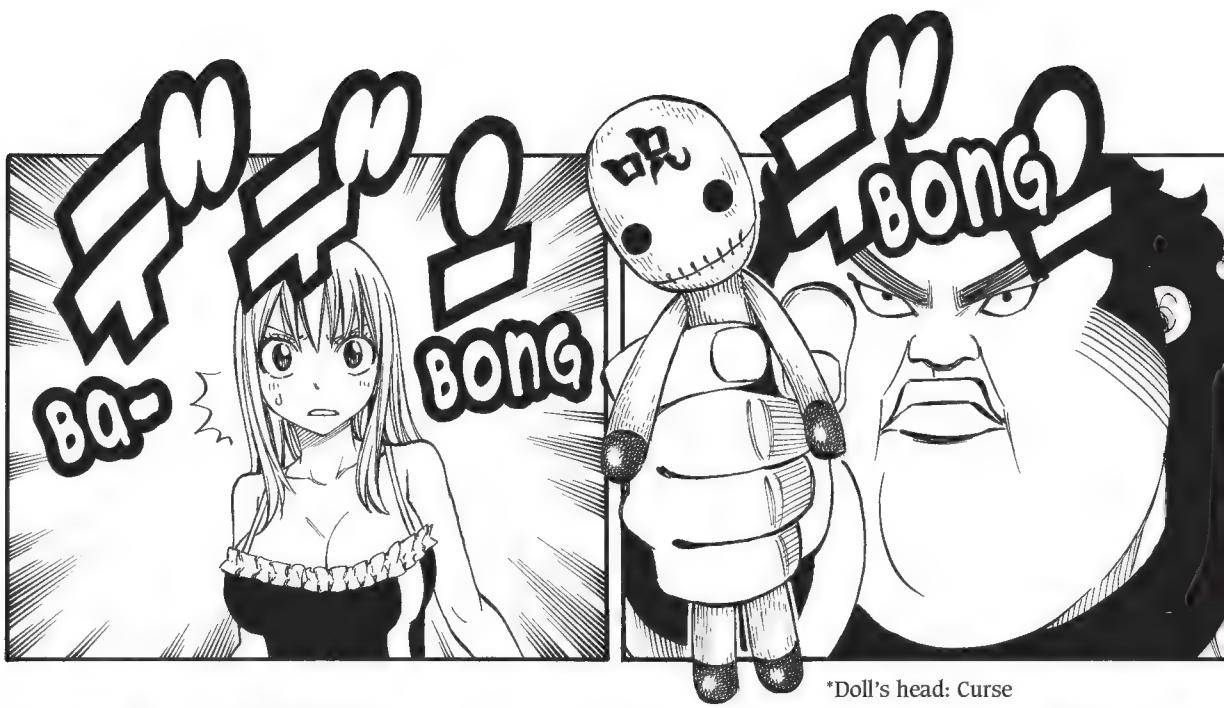
## Chapter 226: A Curse of Vengeance



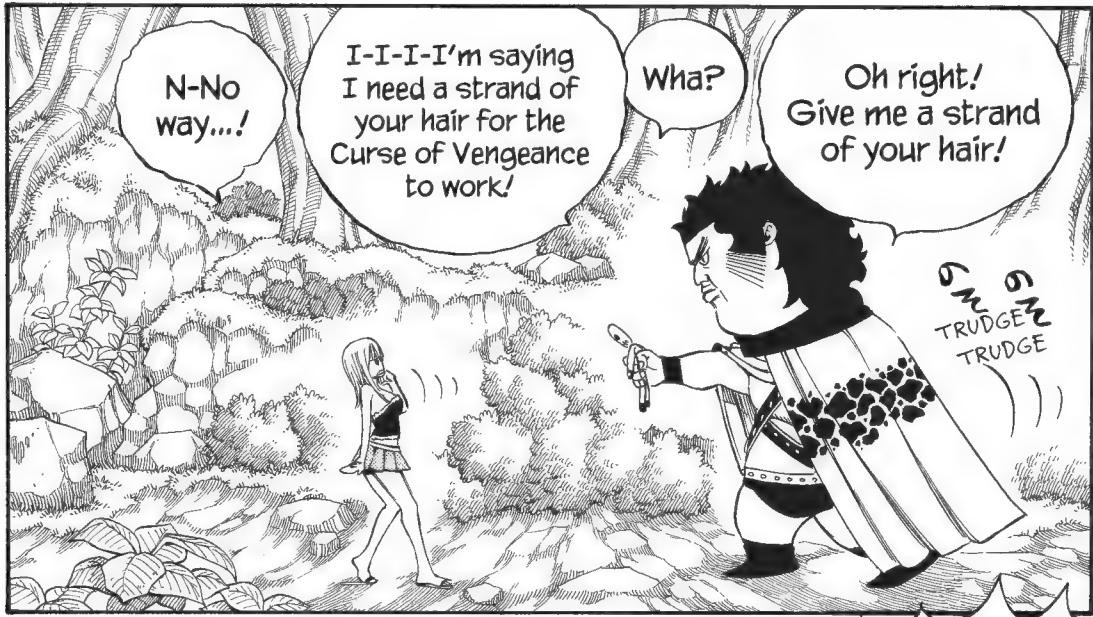


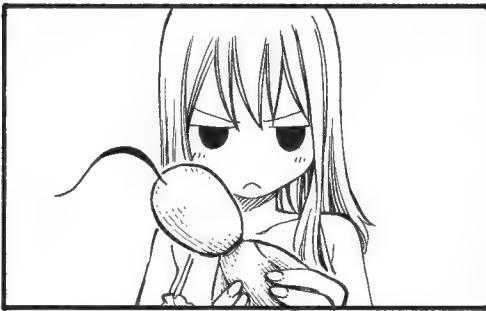
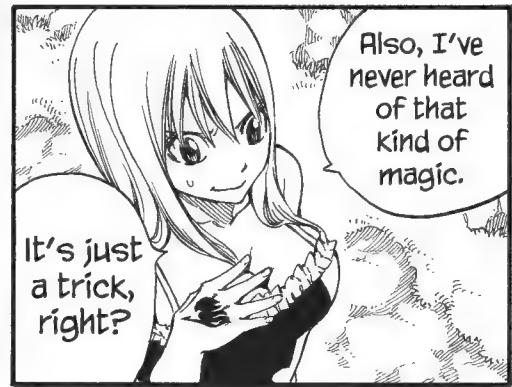


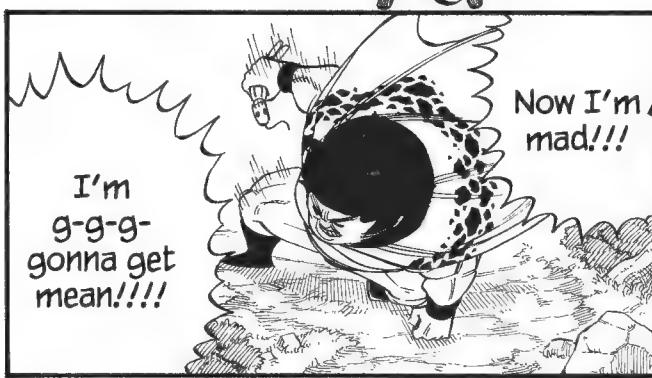
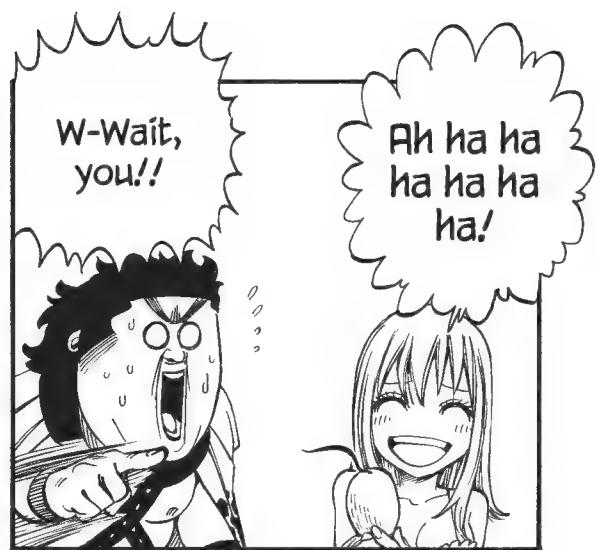
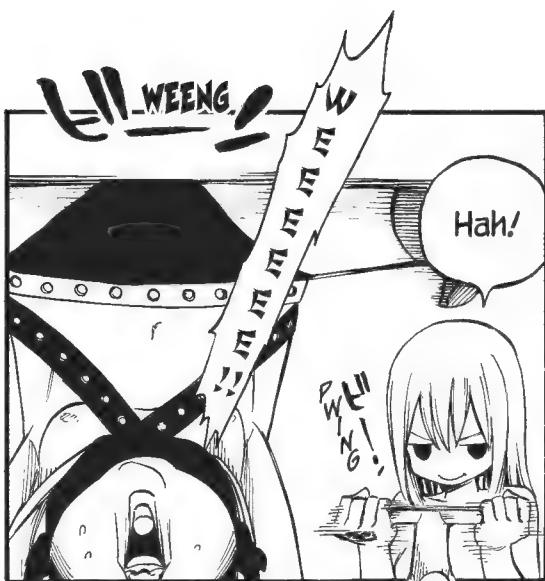




\*Doll's head: Curse









Waaaaait!!!

I think he's even  
stronger when  
he isn't using  
magic!

EEEEEEK  
きや

BOOM

Under-  
stood and  
obeyed!

Aim  
for his  
feet!!  
Fire!!!

Moshi-  
moshi!

OPEN! GATE  
OF THE MAN-  
HORSE PALACE!  
SAGITTARIUS  
!!!!

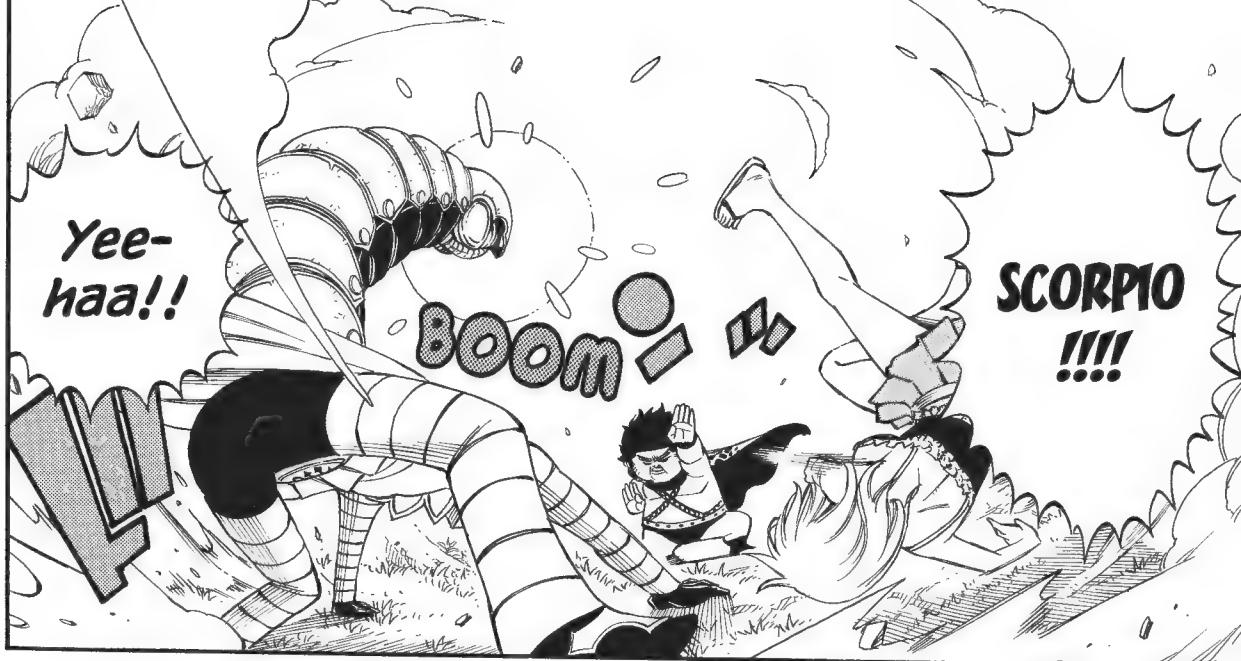
Da-  
Das  
Turn!



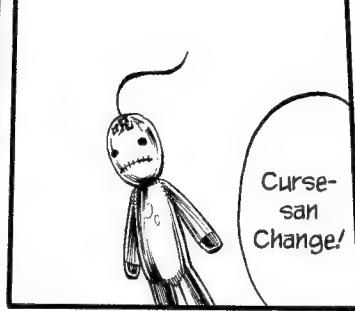
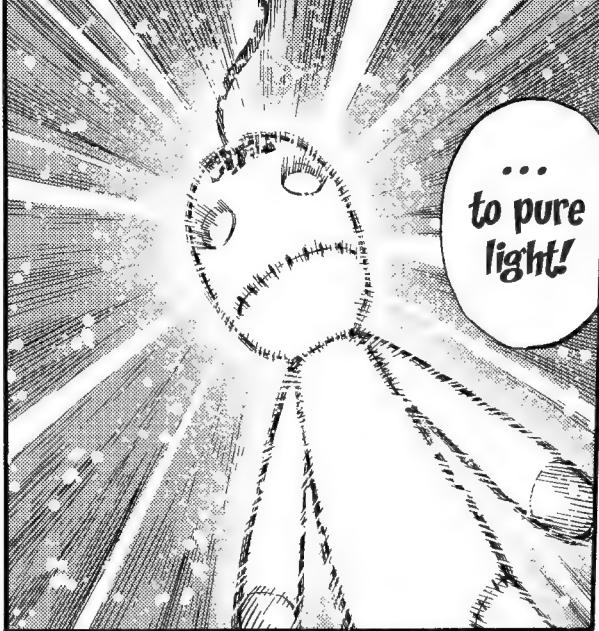


Do-  
Doskoi!





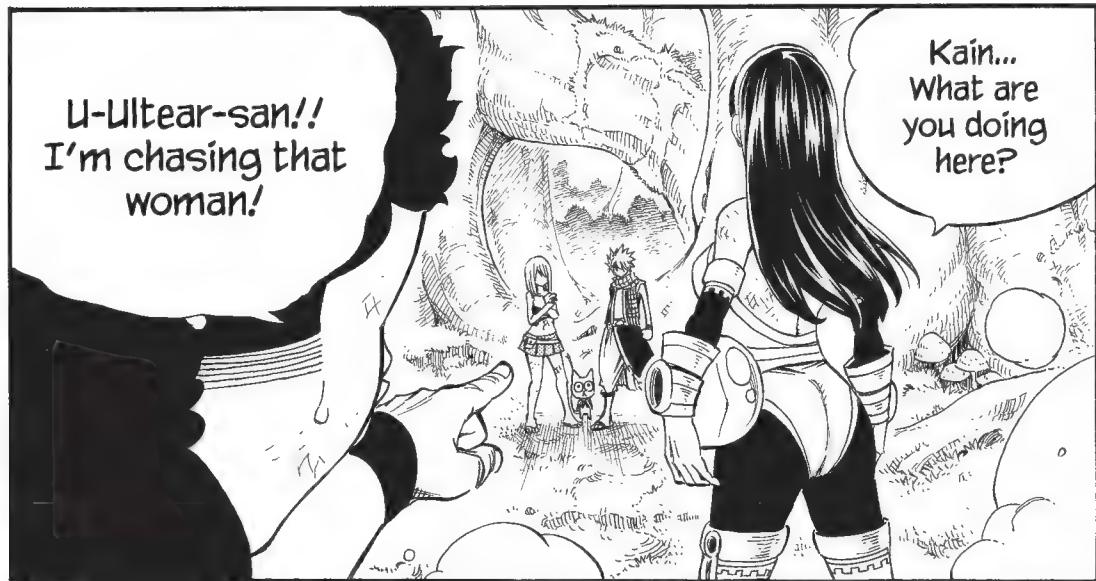








Natsu  
!!





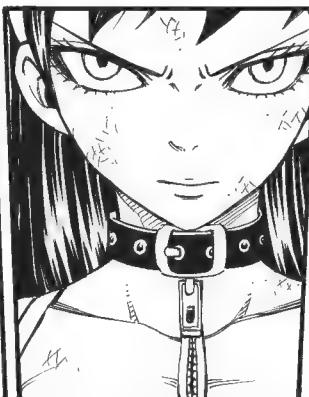


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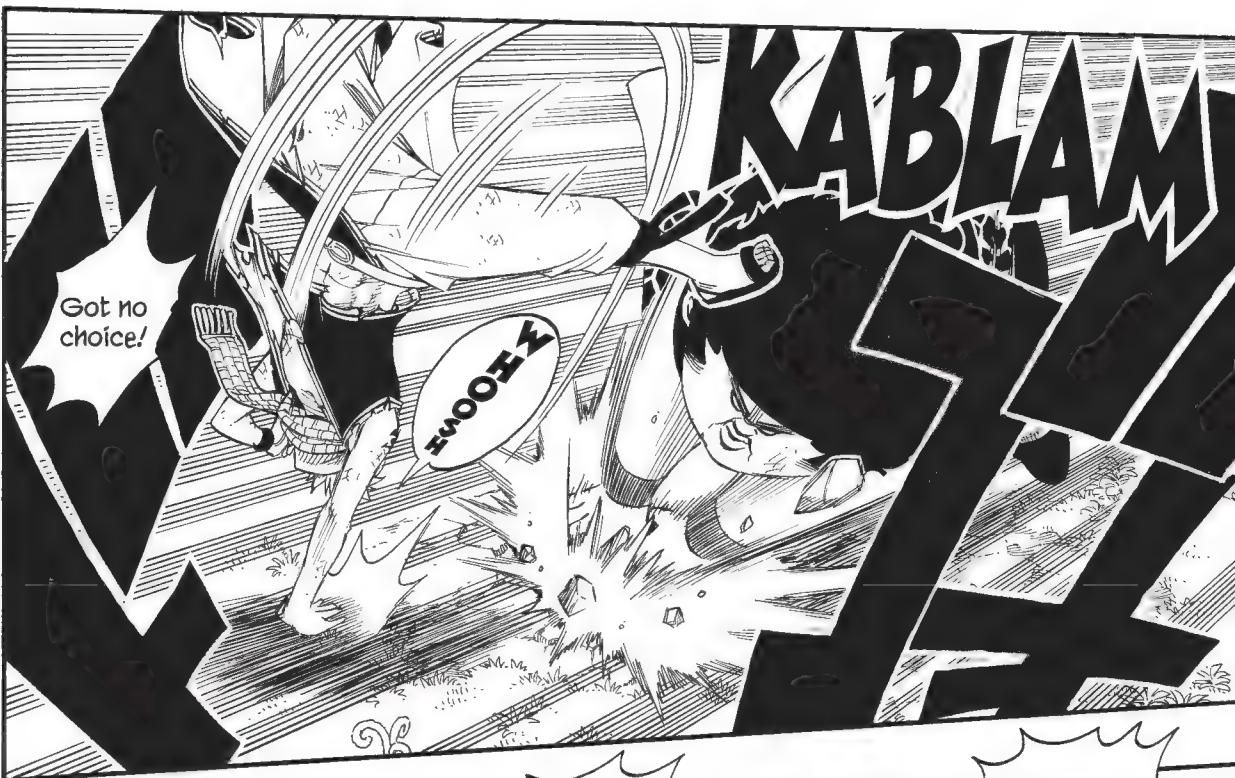
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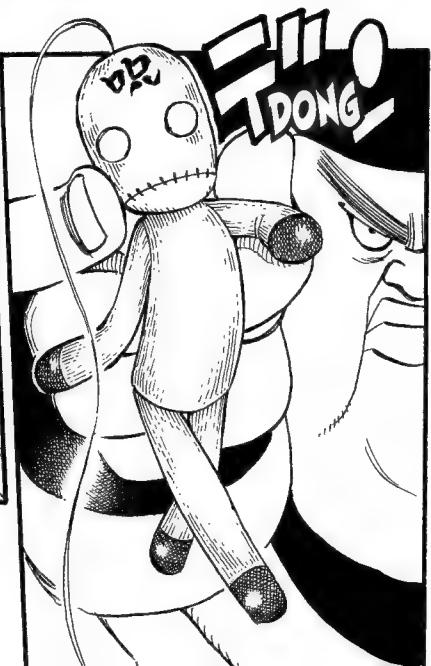
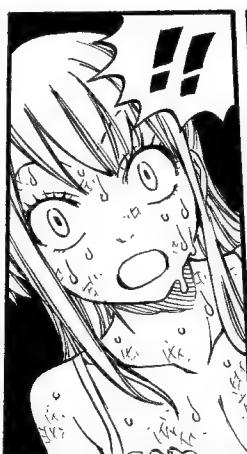


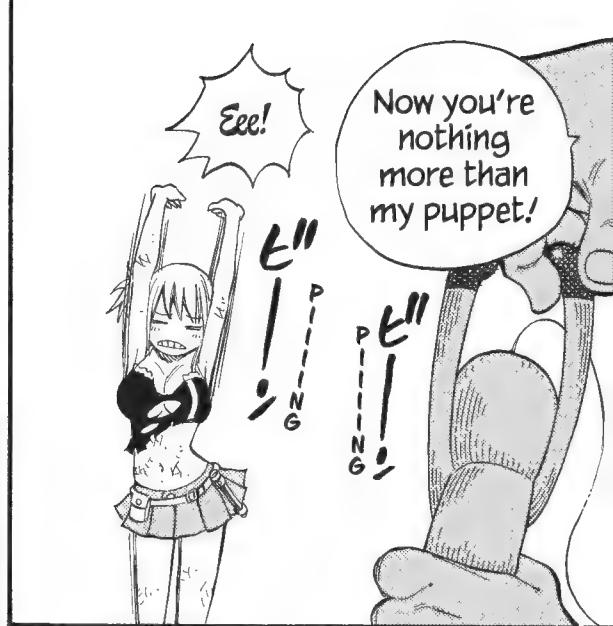
Chapter 227: Lucy Fire

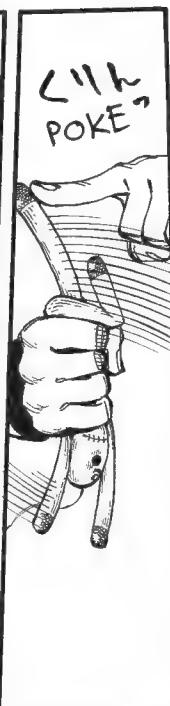




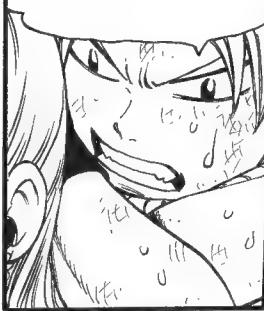








You're really strong! Is the puppet magic adding to your strength?

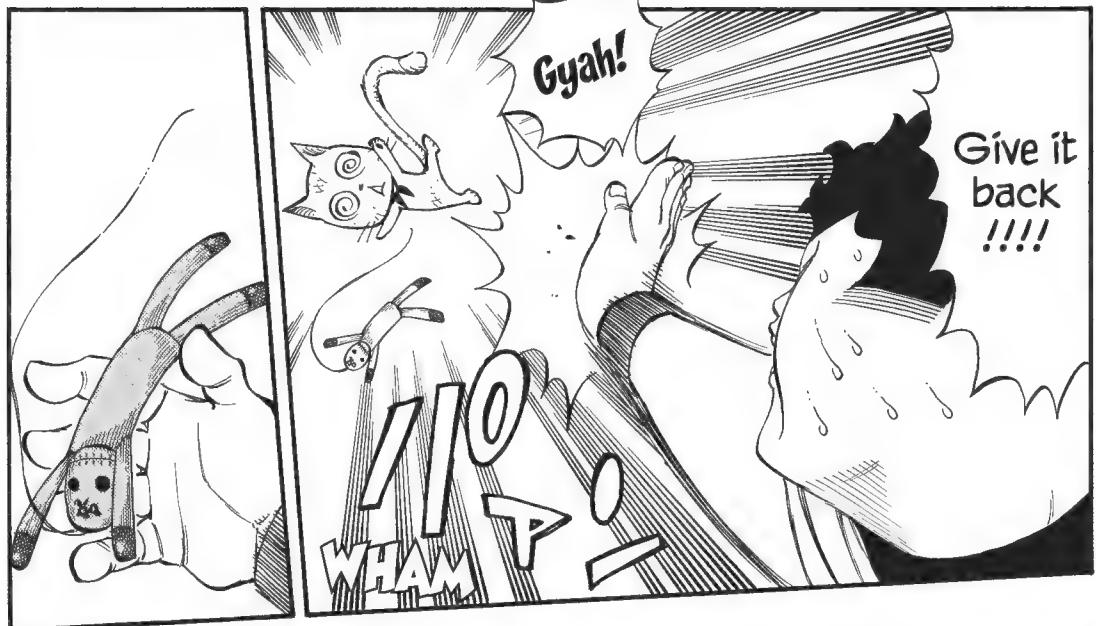
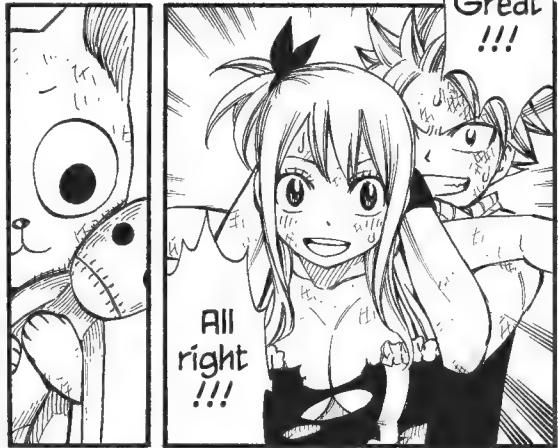


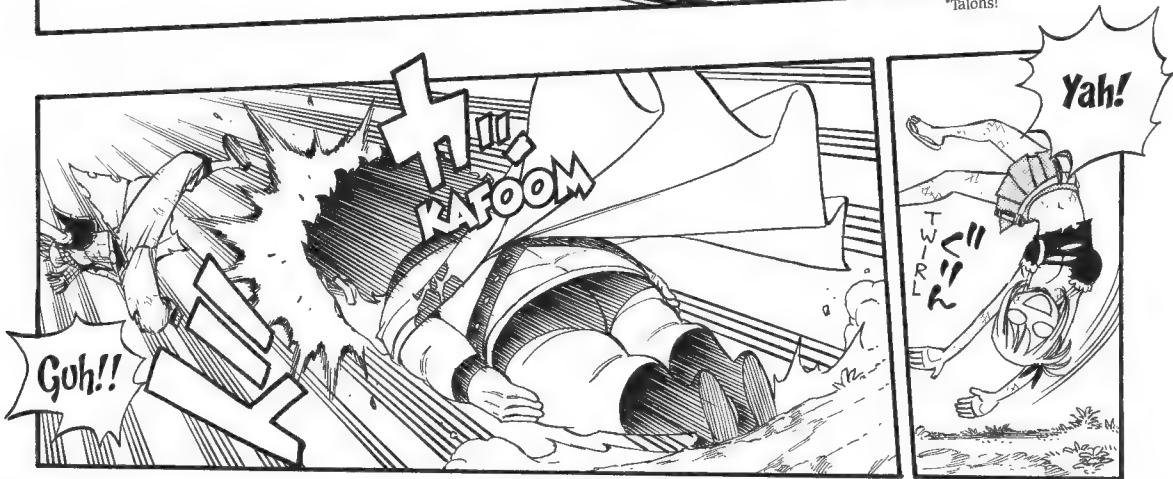
If you do that, then I'll show you the true power of the Curse of Vengeance...

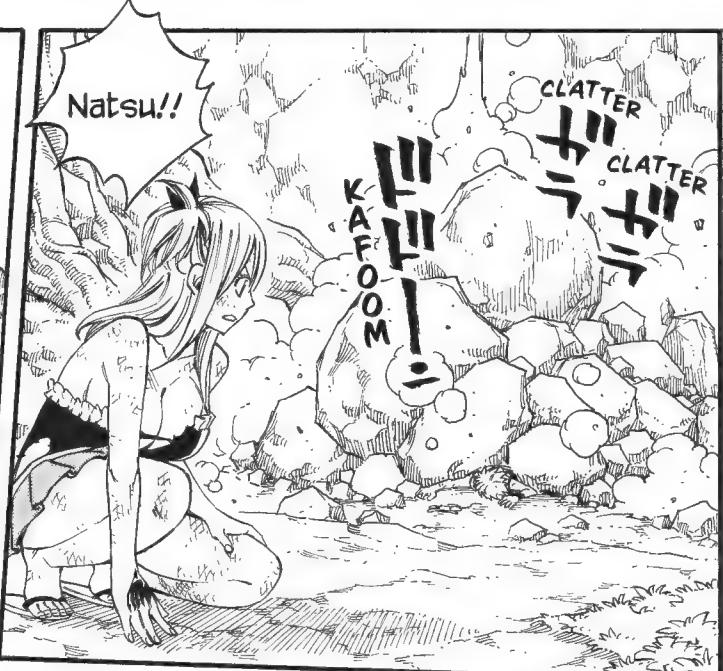


Natsu!! Lucy!! I stole the doll!!

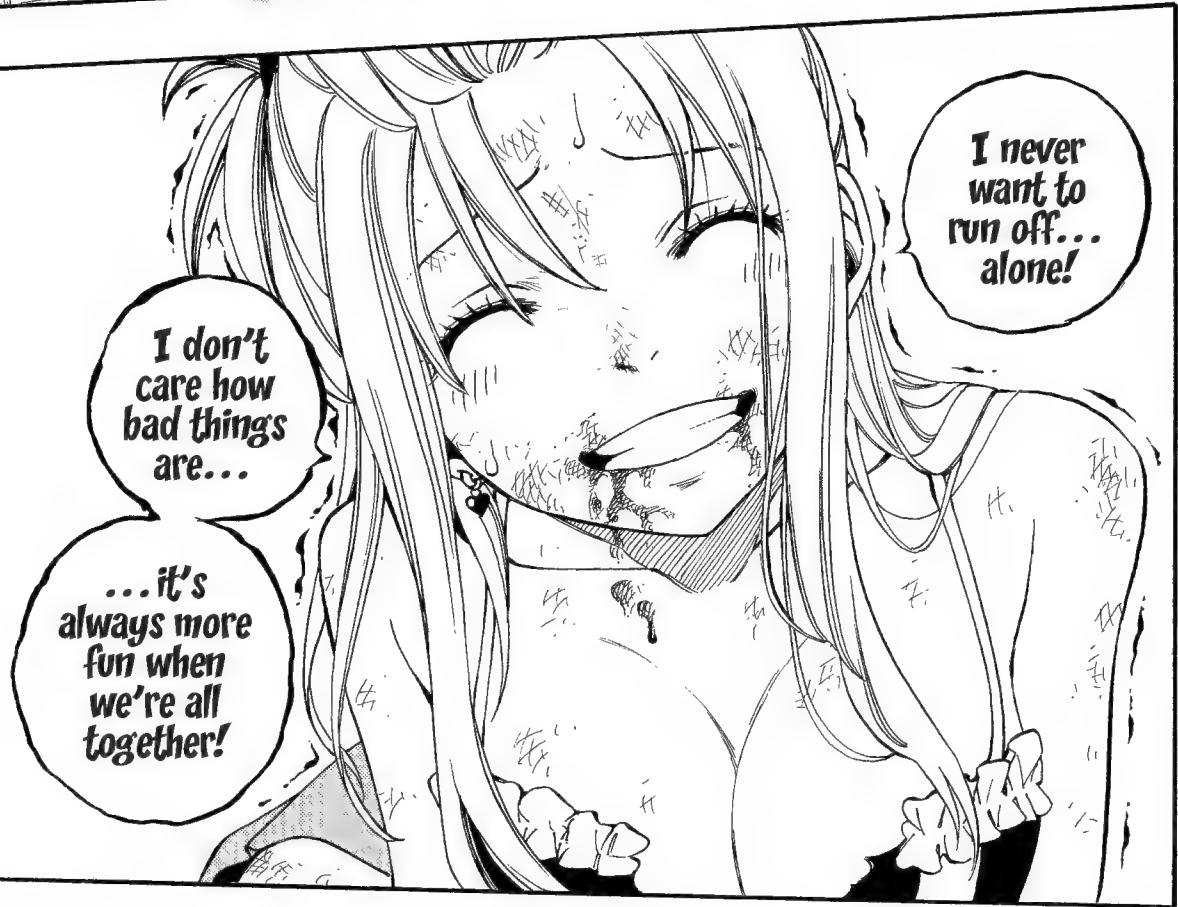


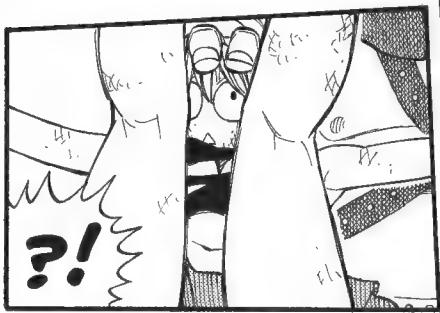
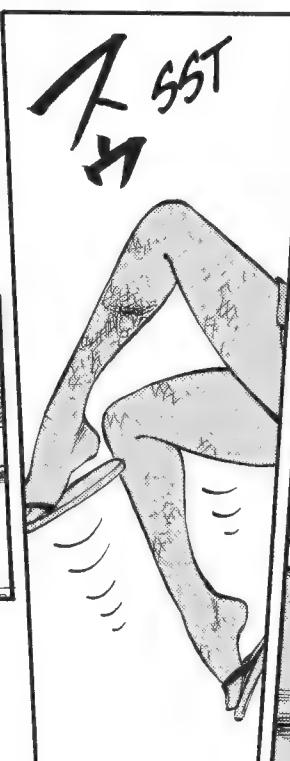
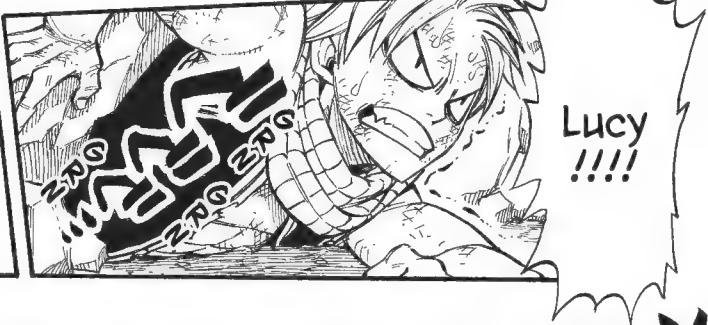
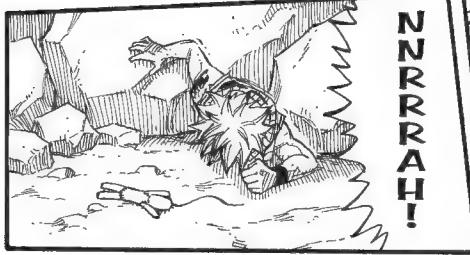




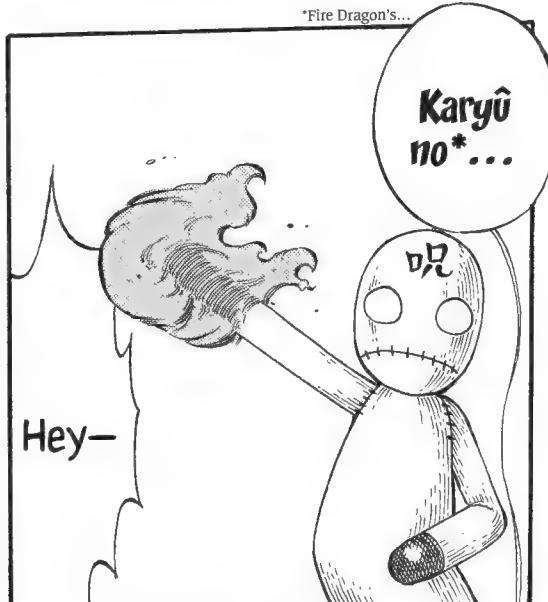


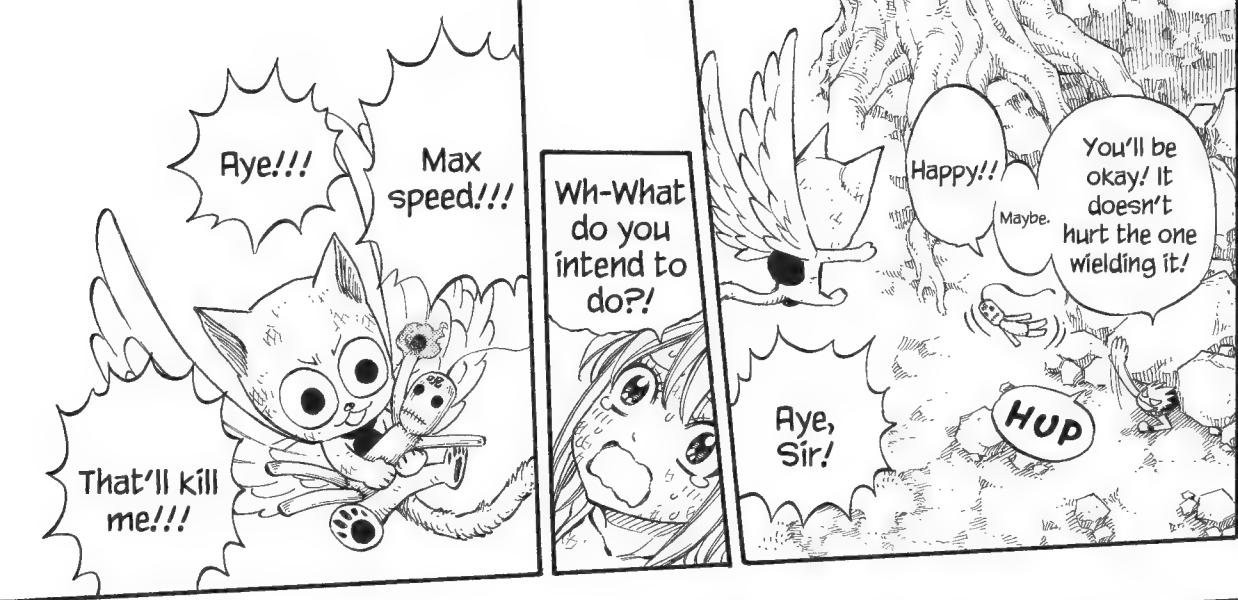














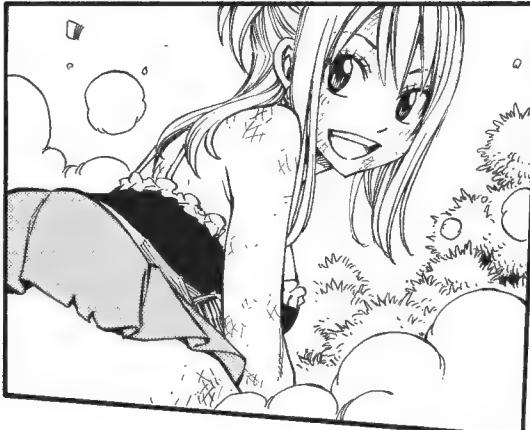
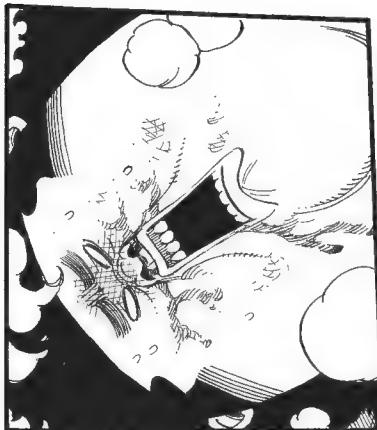
WAAAAGH!!!!

WAAAAGH!!!!

FOOM!

LUCY  
FIRE  
!!!!!!

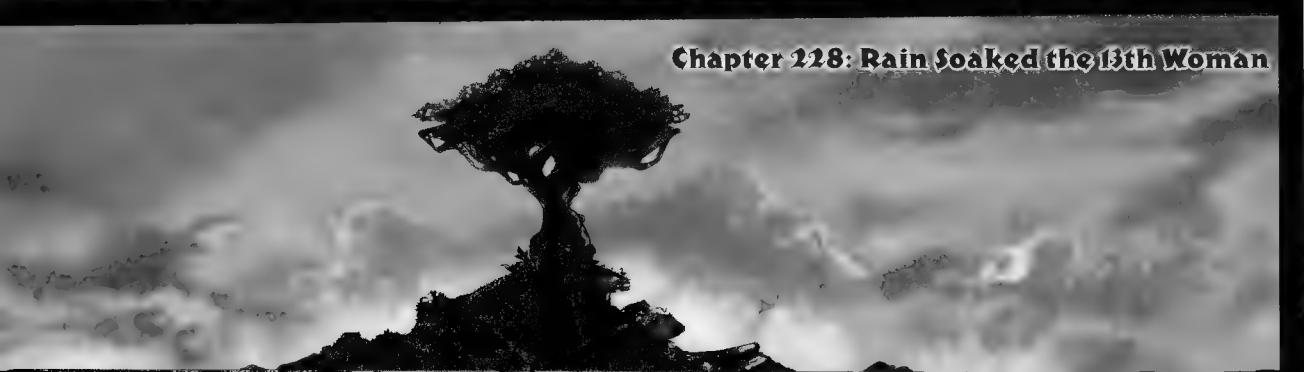
WAAAAGH!!!!



And the  
winner's  
pose!!  
Yay!!

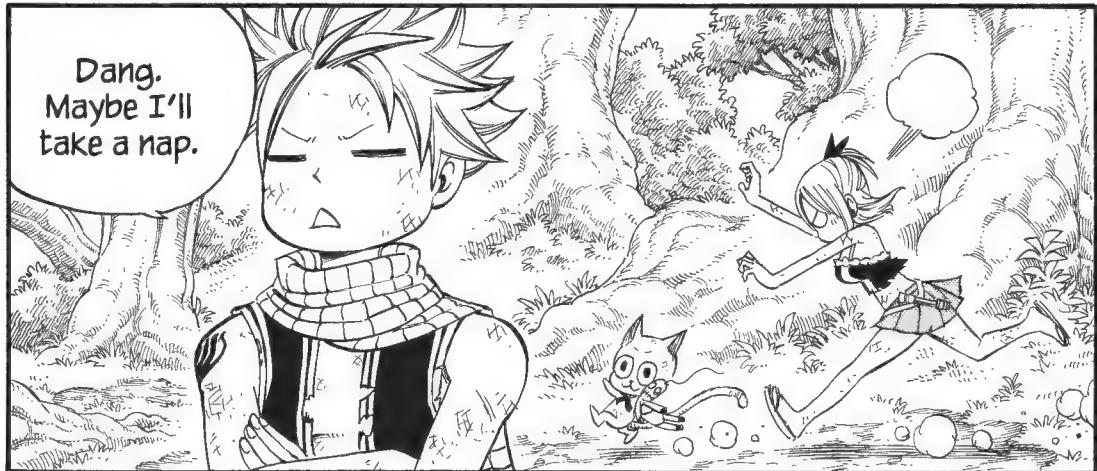


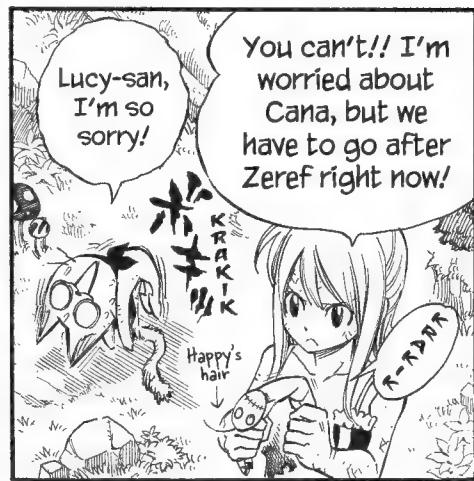


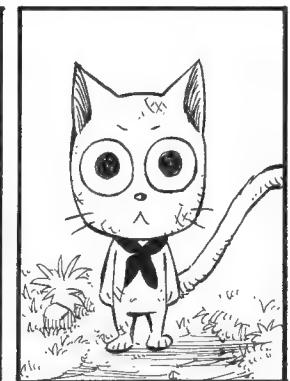
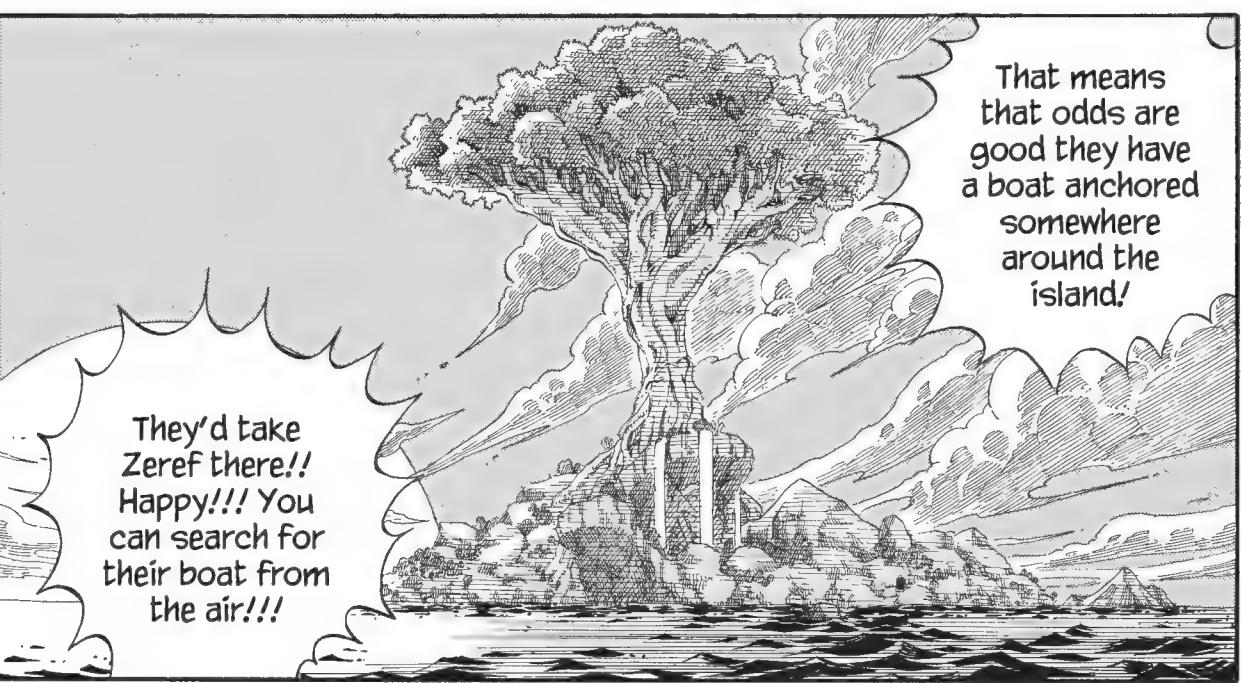
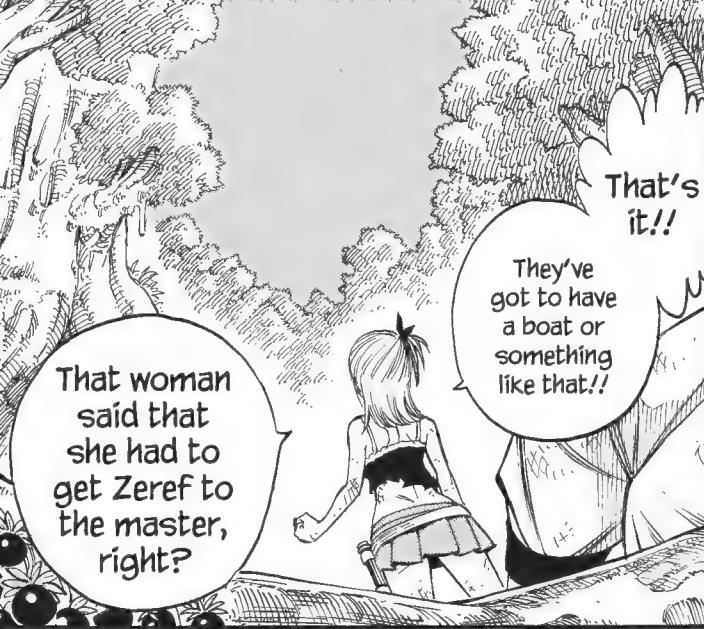


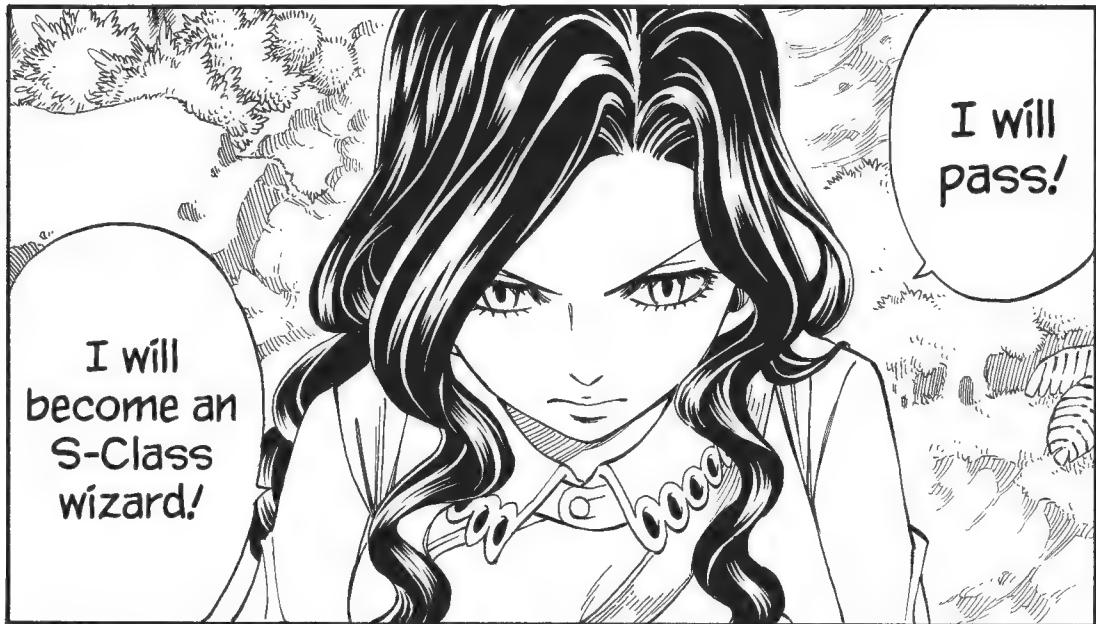
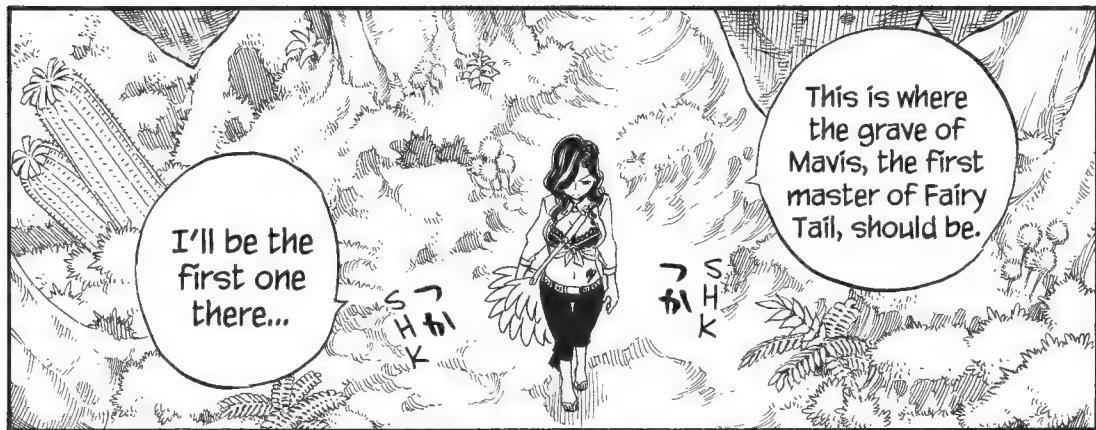
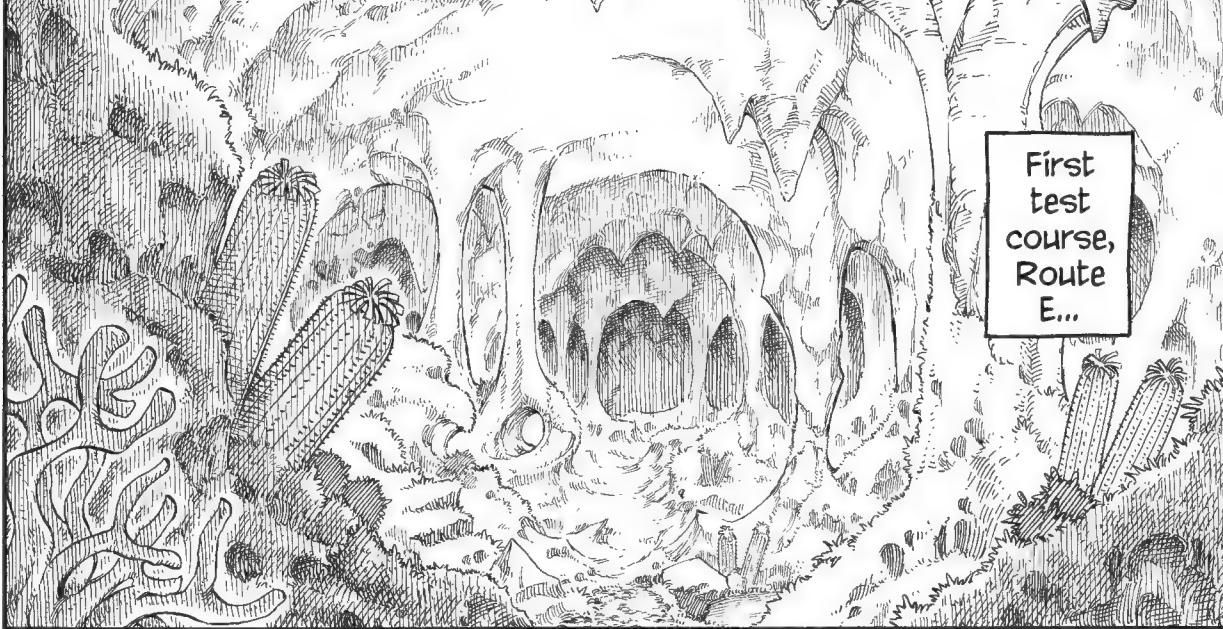


A rejected 'splash' page. I just couldn't seem to get the patterns on the clothing to look right.







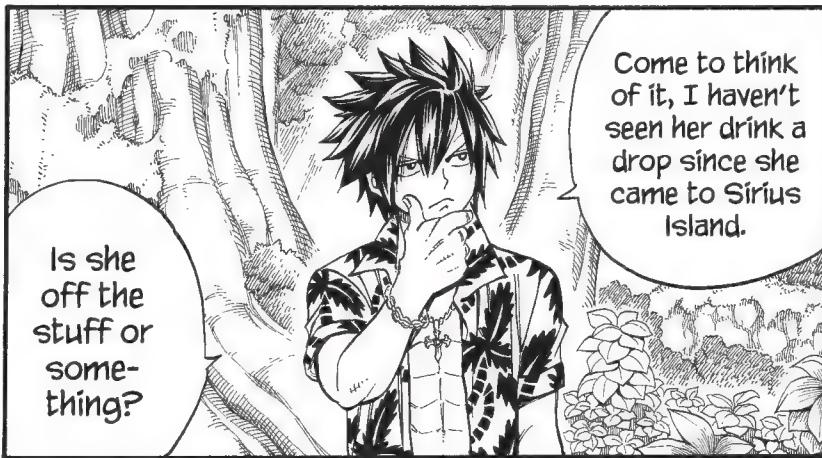


I'll become  
an S-Class  
Wizard!

So I can  
face him...

So I can  
tell him...

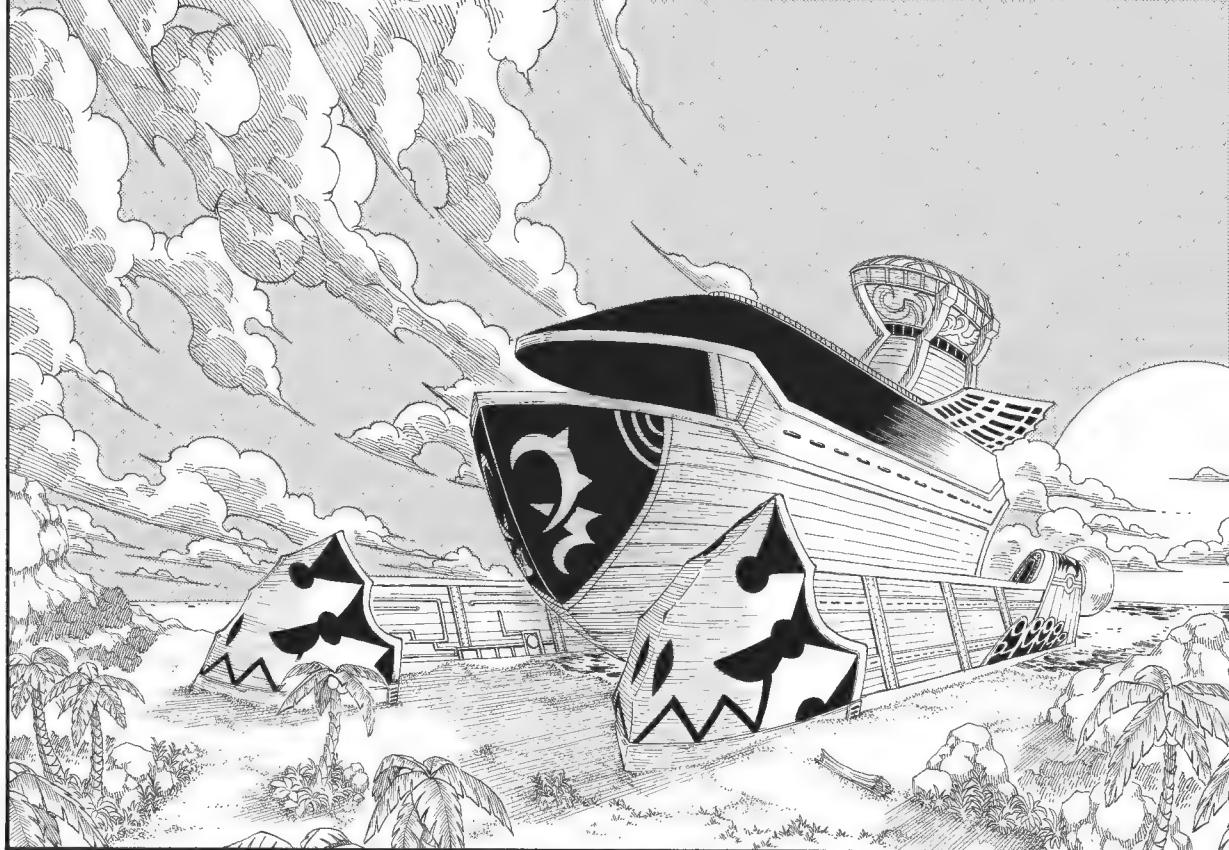


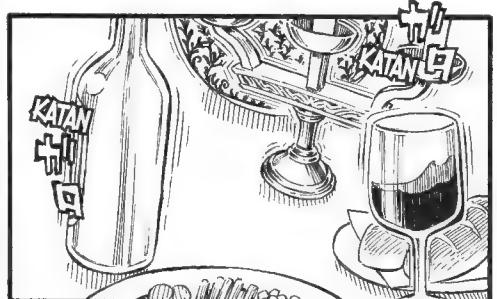
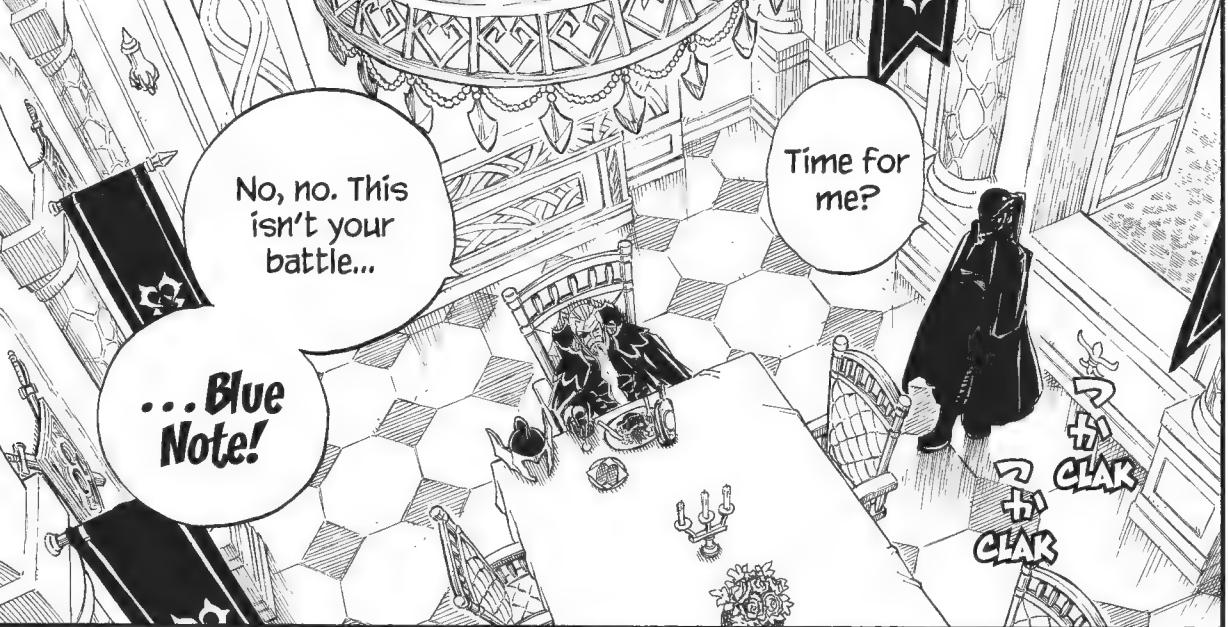






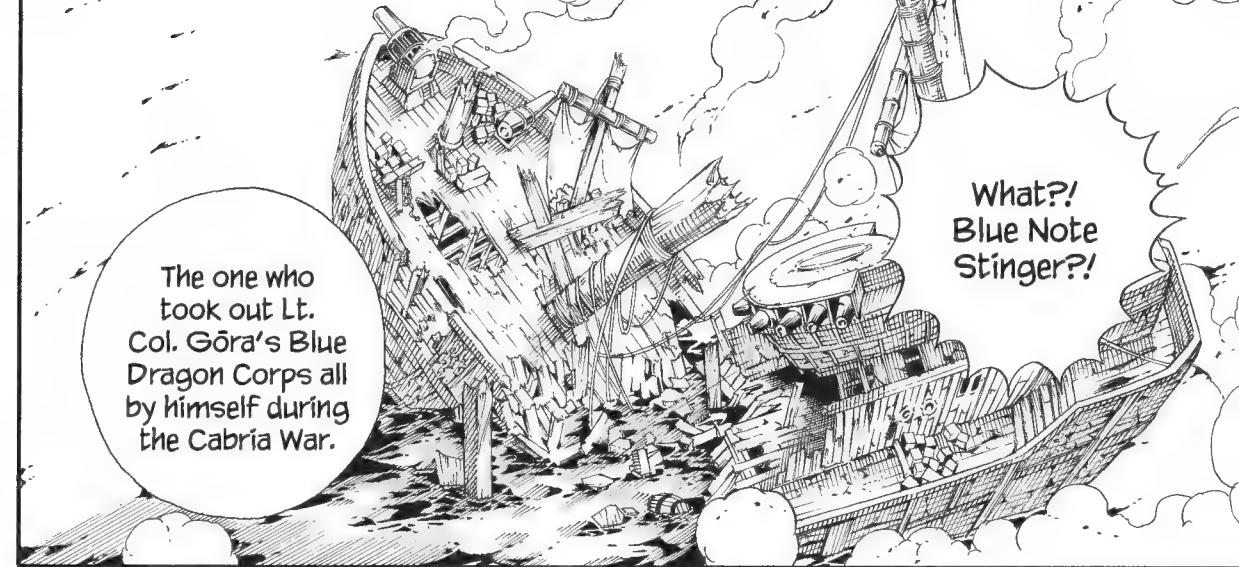












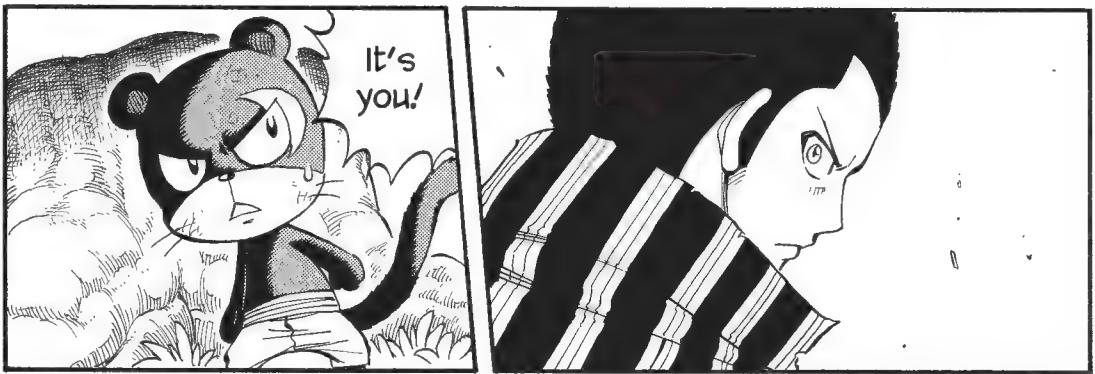
The one who took out Lt. Col. Gōra's Blue Dragon Corps all by himself during the Cabria War.

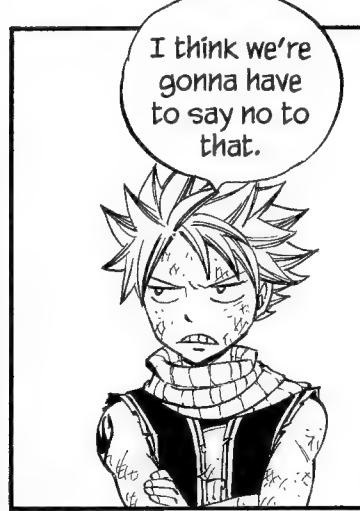
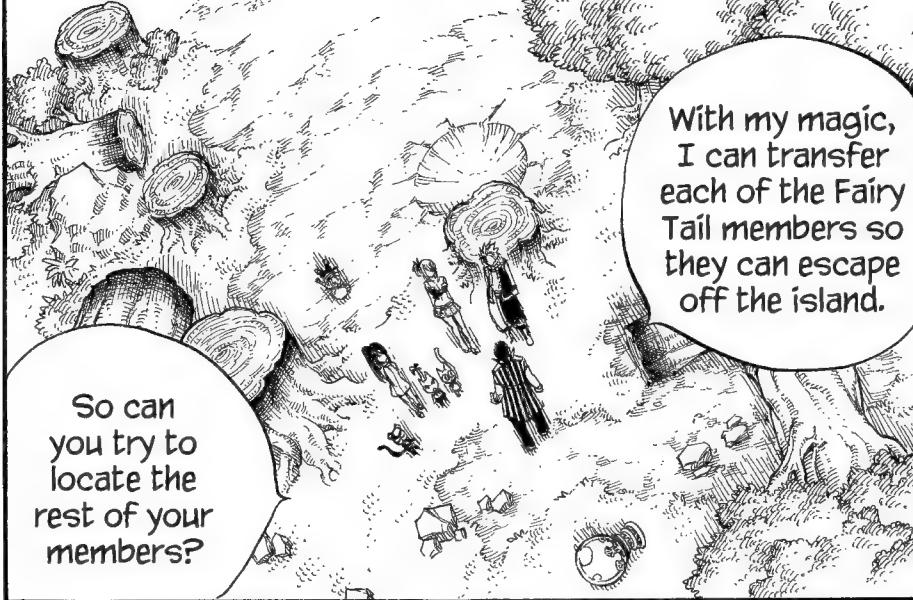
What?!  
Blue Note Stinger?!













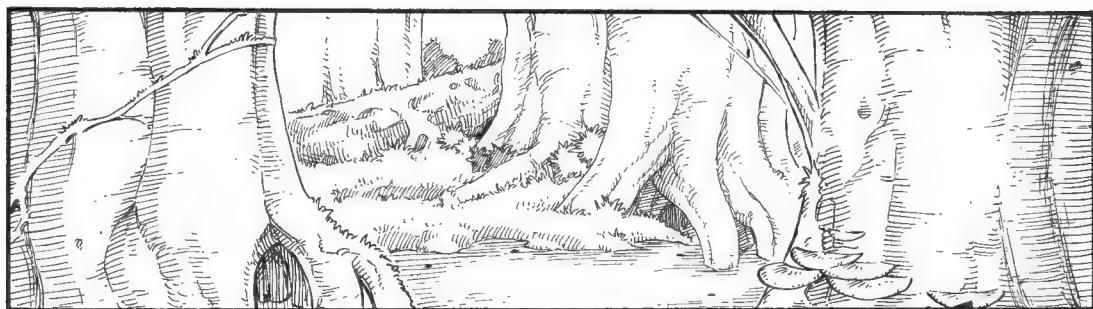
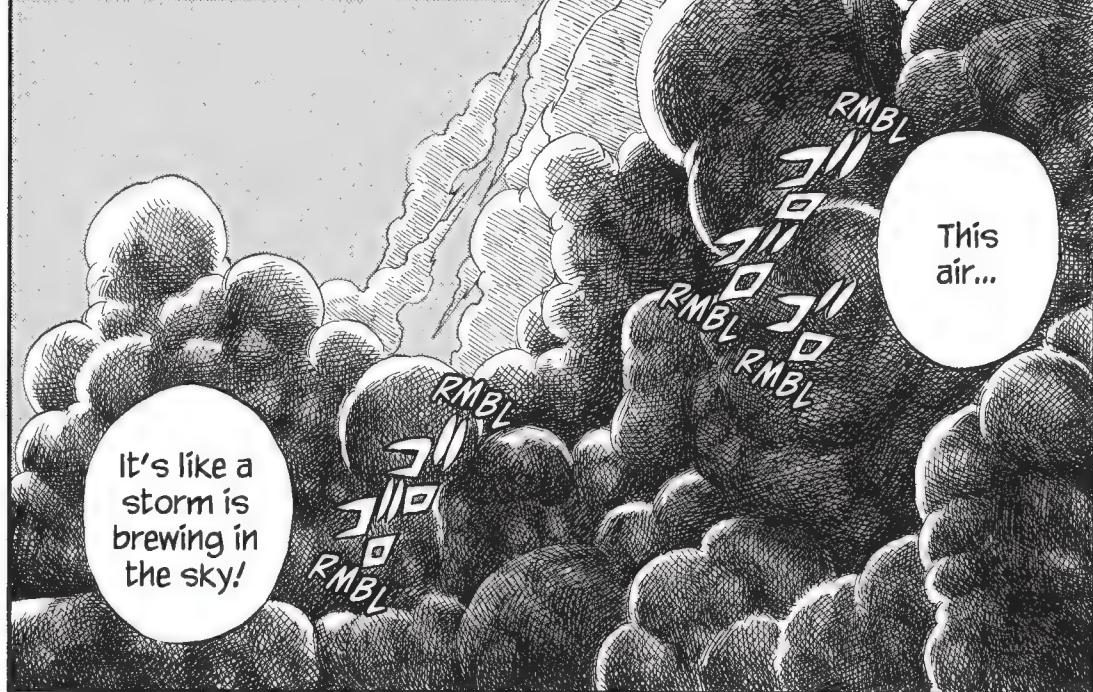
Makarov was taken out!! Grimoire Heart has some really terrifying wizards left in it! There's no way you can beat them!!!!





Our guild  
is a family!  
Anyone who  
raises a hand  
against our  
family is an  
enemy!!!

And  
we'll  
destroy  
them!!!!



You are  
number  
4.

Erza  
Scarlet?

Get some  
distance.  
I'll take her  
on!

Number  
13.

Ngh...

! ! !  
= +  
SPASH

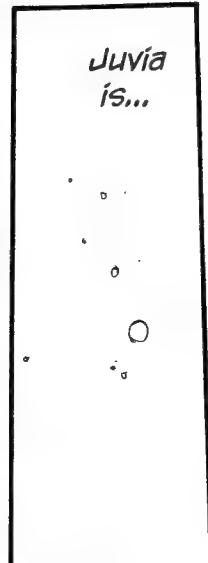
Priority list  
I made for  
killing you.

What's  
that  
number  
mean?

Pa-  
thetic!

It's very  
important.

KEEN  
GACH



No. 2 is  
Makarov.

No. 3 is  
Gildarts.

However, I  
believe that  
Hades-sama  
took care of  
him.

However, it  
seems he is  
no longer on  
the island.

Kh!

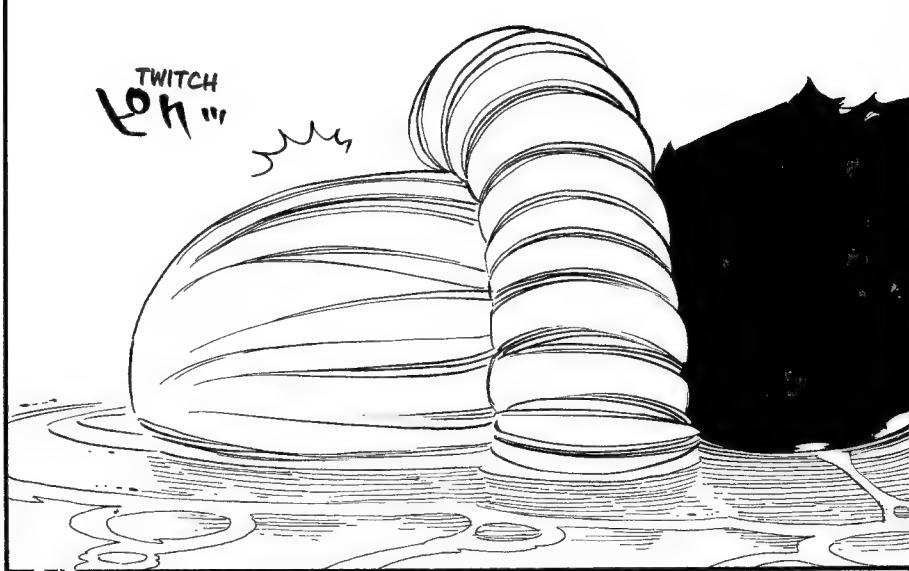
HII  
H  
W  
A  
A

That  
means there's  
someone you  
see as a higher  
priority than  
the master?

You're  
saying the  
master is  
no. 2?!

Gray  
Fullbuster!

No. 1 is  
Gray!



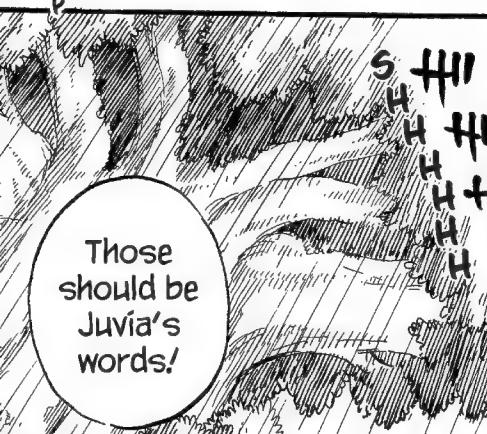
The man  
who made  
Ultear  
sad...

He is responsi-  
ble for the  
death of  
Ur-Ultear's  
mother.

Why  
Gray?







SHHHHH SHHHHH SHHHHH

Just  
whose  
life...

...were  
you going  
to take,  
exactly?

H-Hey!  
Calm  
down!

# Fairy Tail

フェアリーテイル

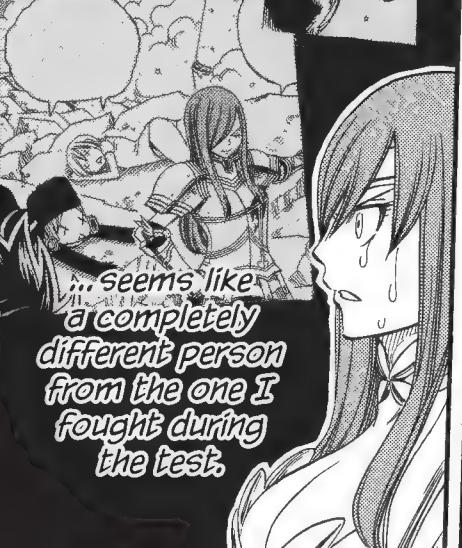
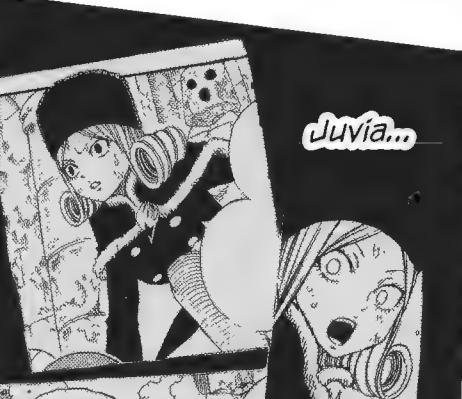
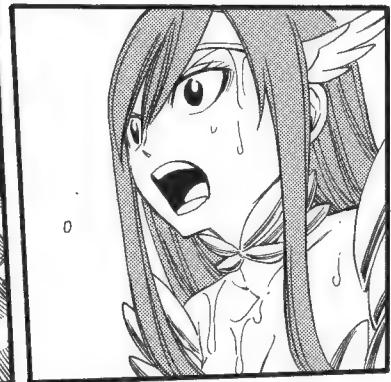
## Chapter 229: Dead End of Despair

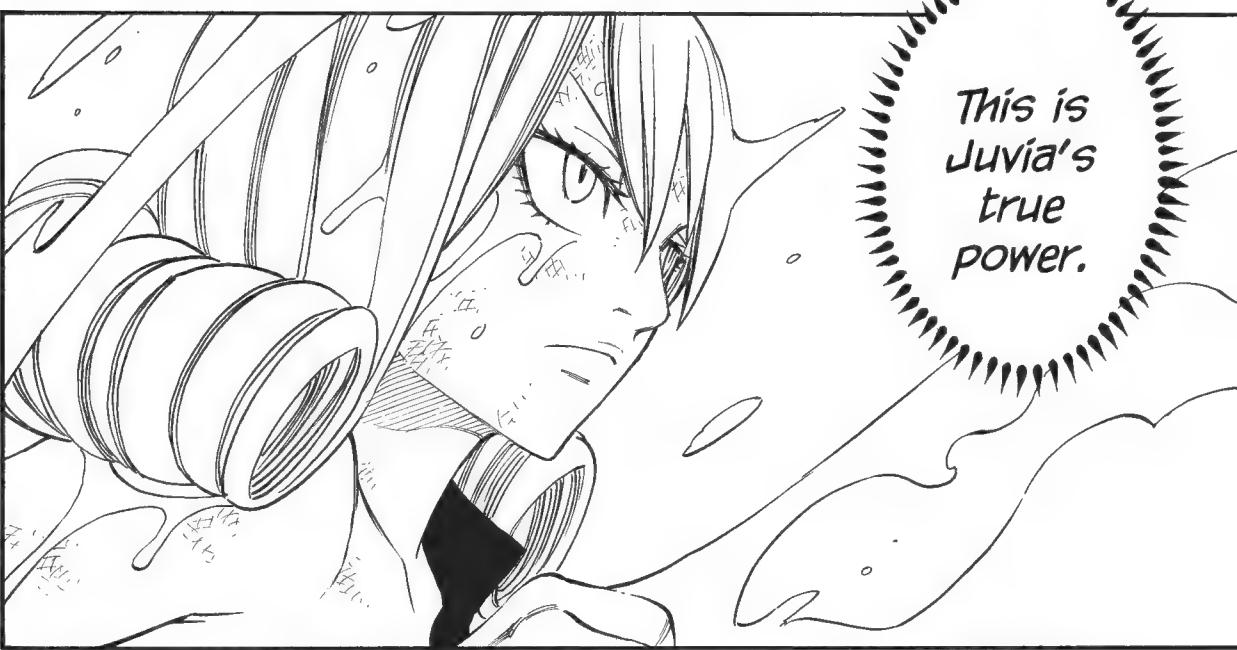


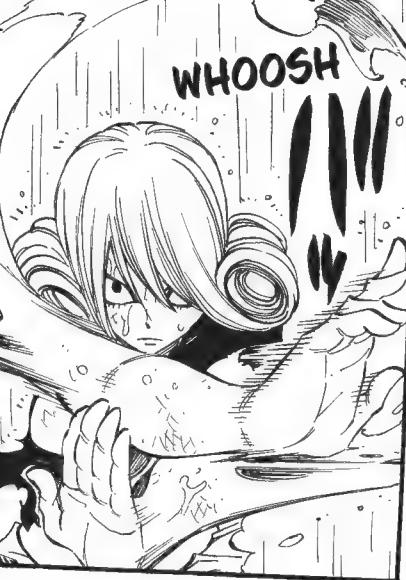








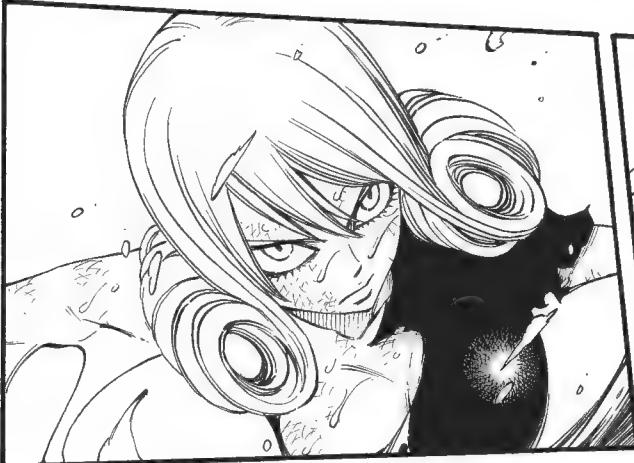




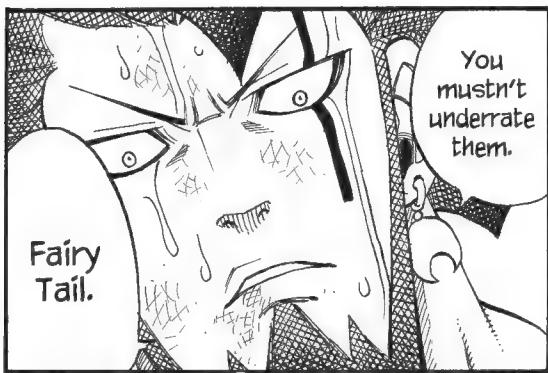
WATER  
SLICER  
!!!!

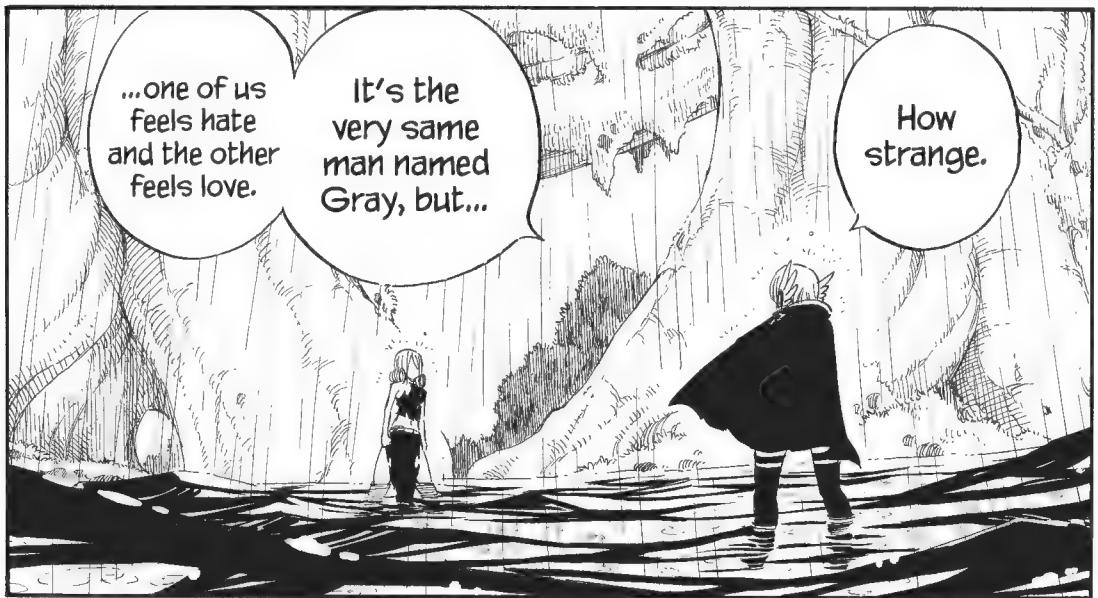
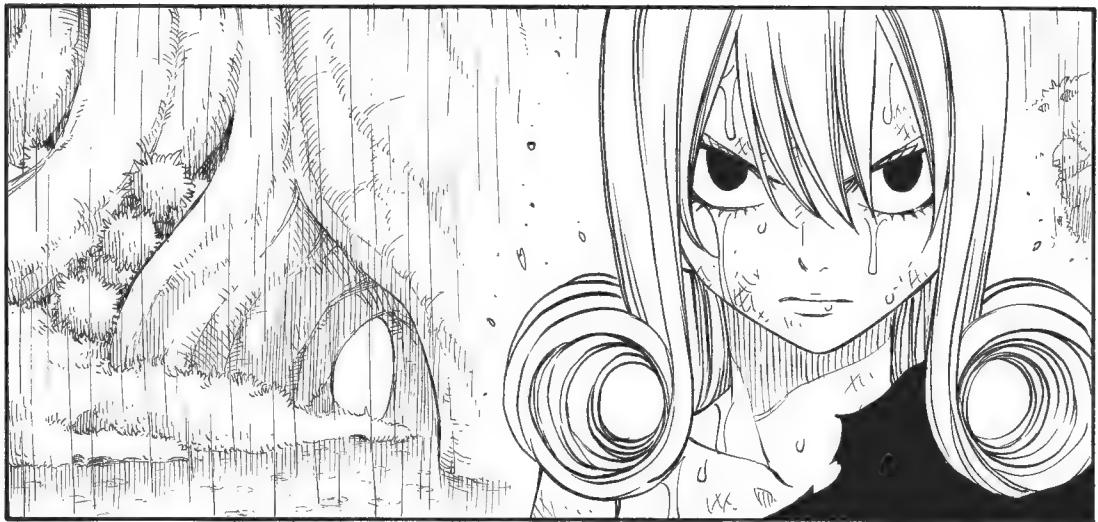
KABAM

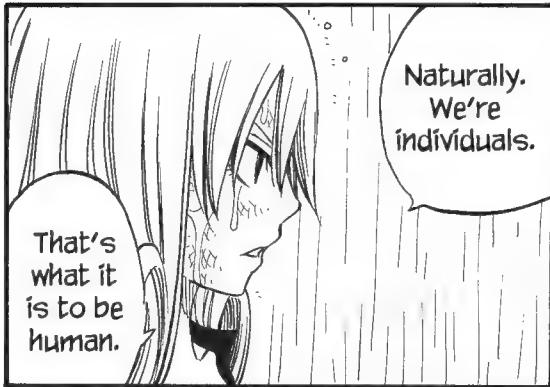
BAM  
BAM  
BAM

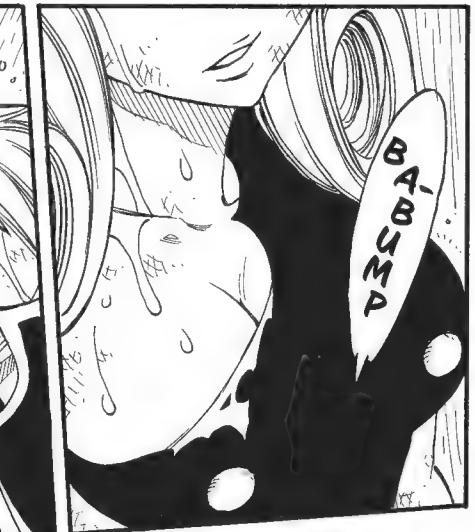
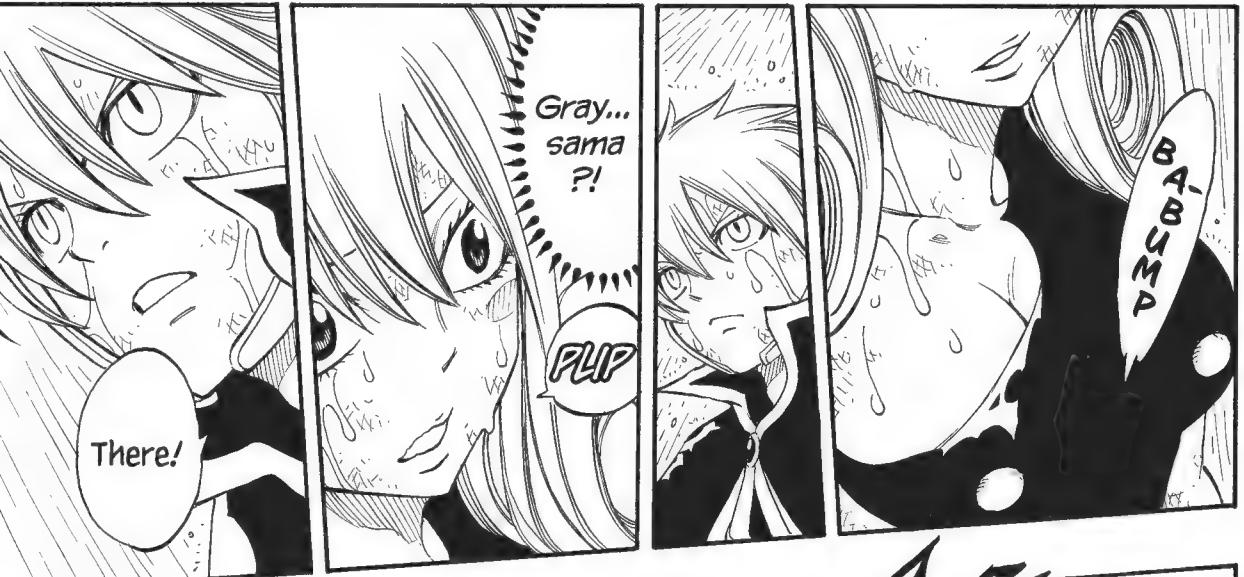
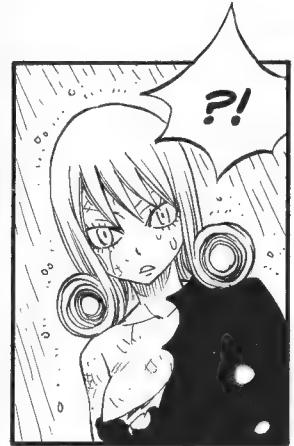














Strong feelings toward the target are what make the connection possible.

Your senses are now one with Gray's!

Wh-What did you just do?!



I-I could die happy!

I-It's like heaven...

Does it feel good? Your senses are completely shared now.

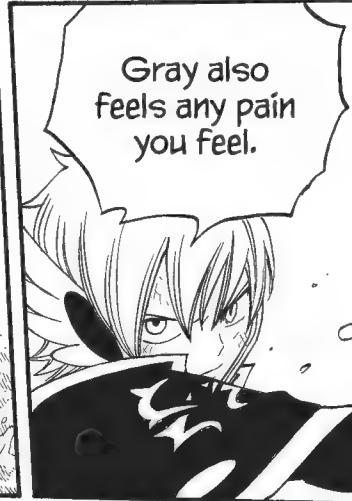
However ...

What's happening now?!! Suddenly I feel flushed ...?!!

Wah... Wah-Wah-Wah...



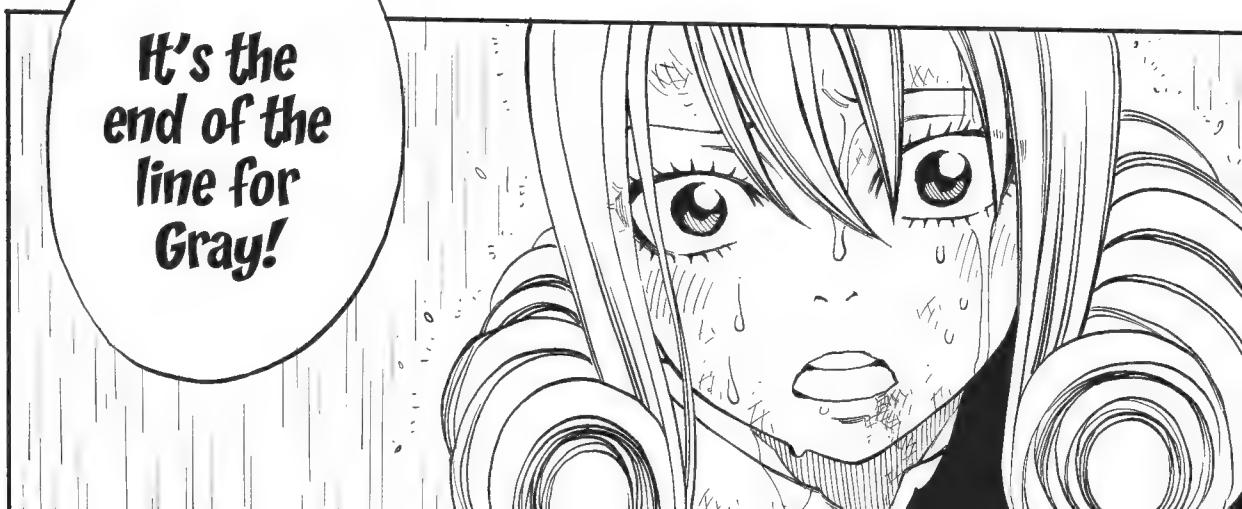
This magic makes your pain one as well!!!!







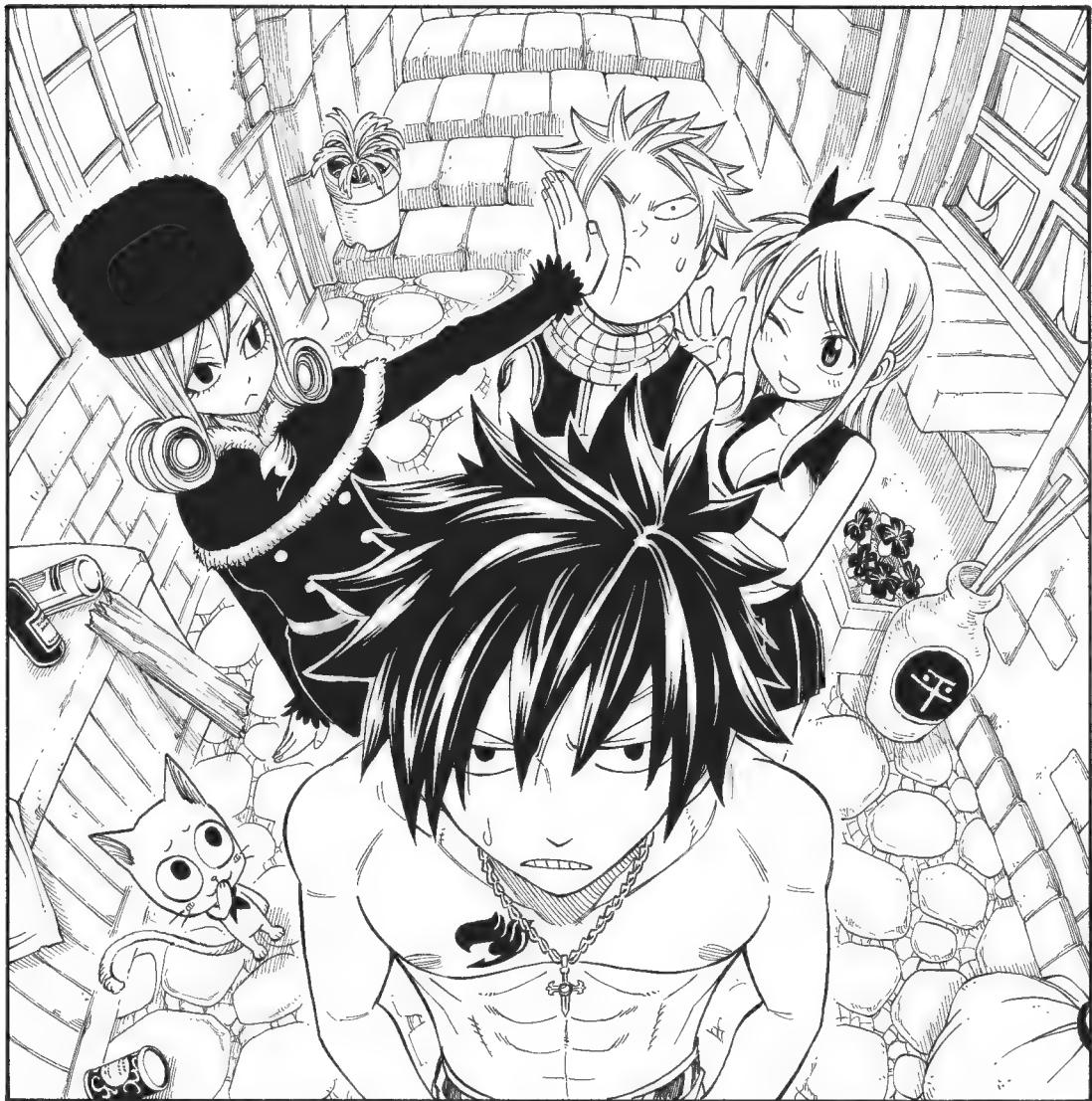




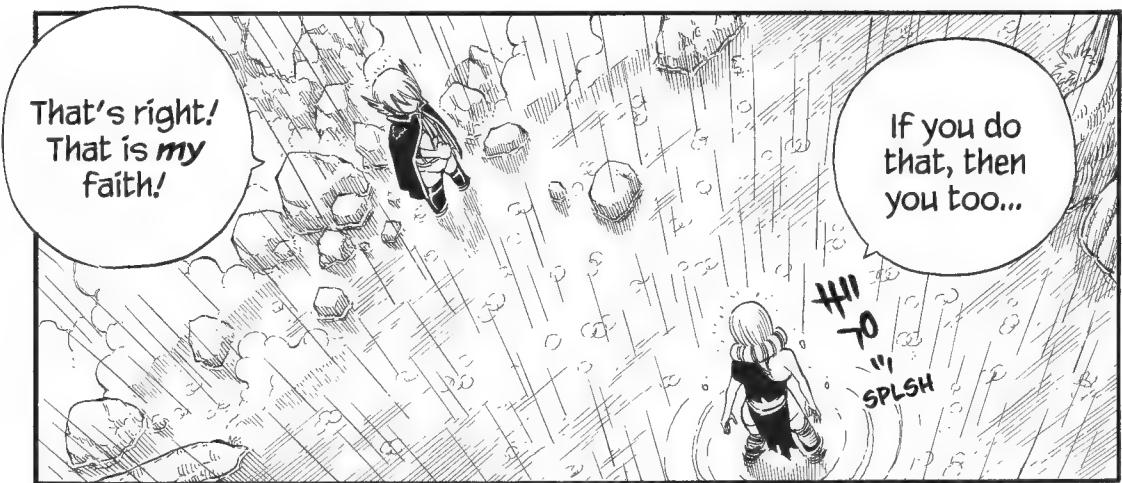
# FAIRY TAIL

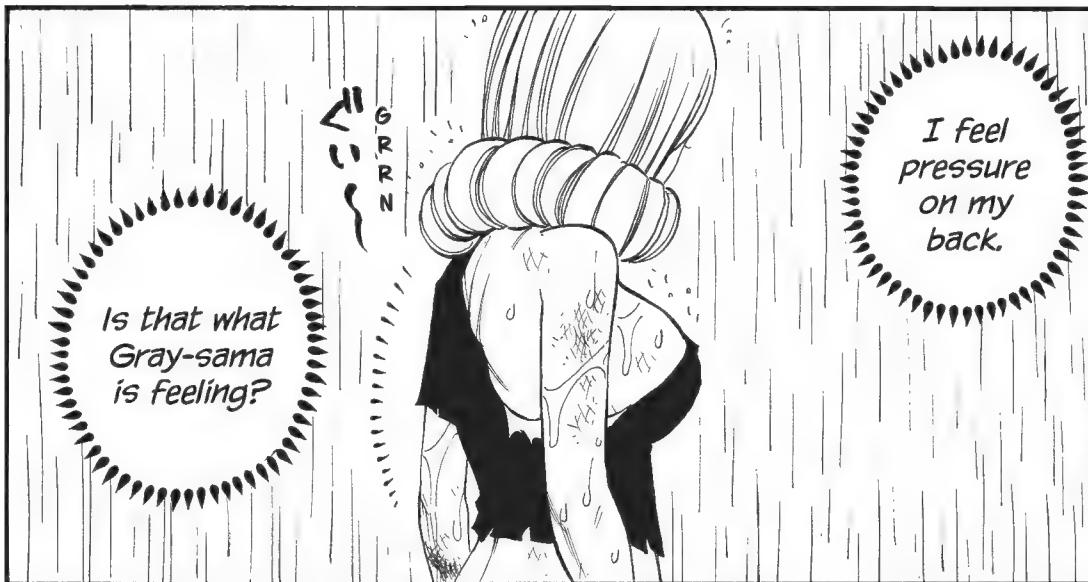
フェアリーテイル

## Chapter 230: Tears of Love and Vitality



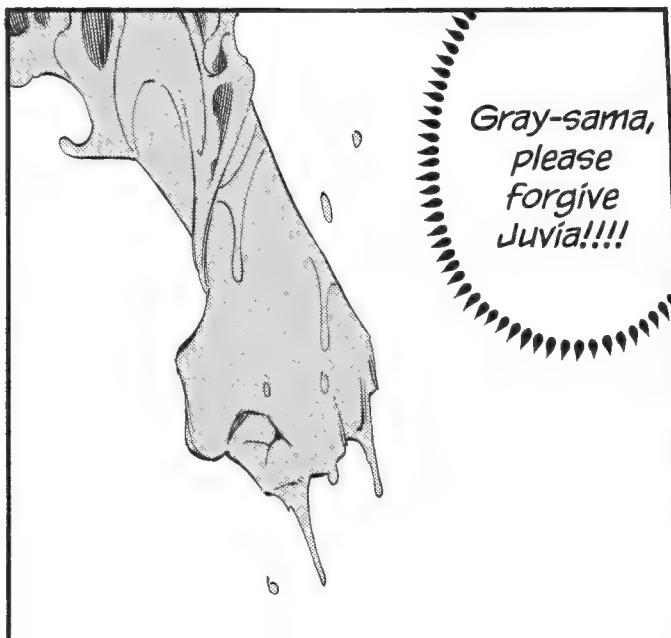
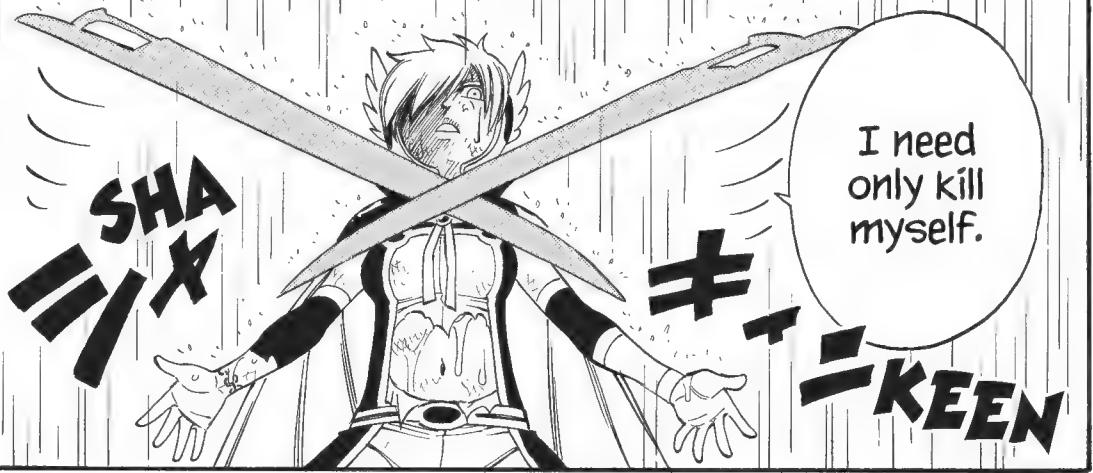






Is that what  
Gray-sama  
is feeling?









And only death is shared by all!

When people share the link, they also share their lives!

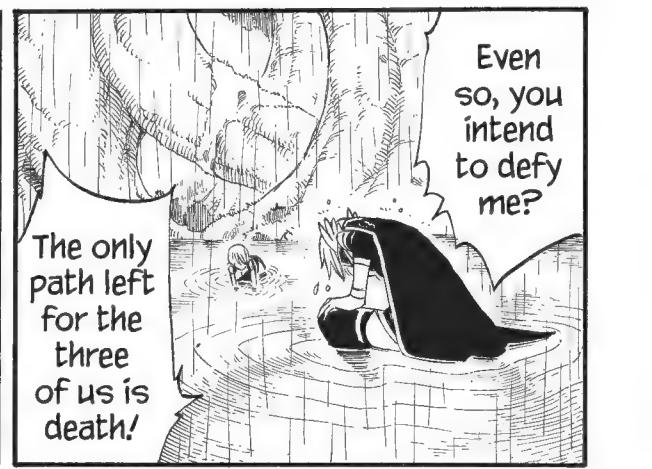
The only way to stop me is to kill me!

Though we share pain through Magility Sense, we don't share wounds.



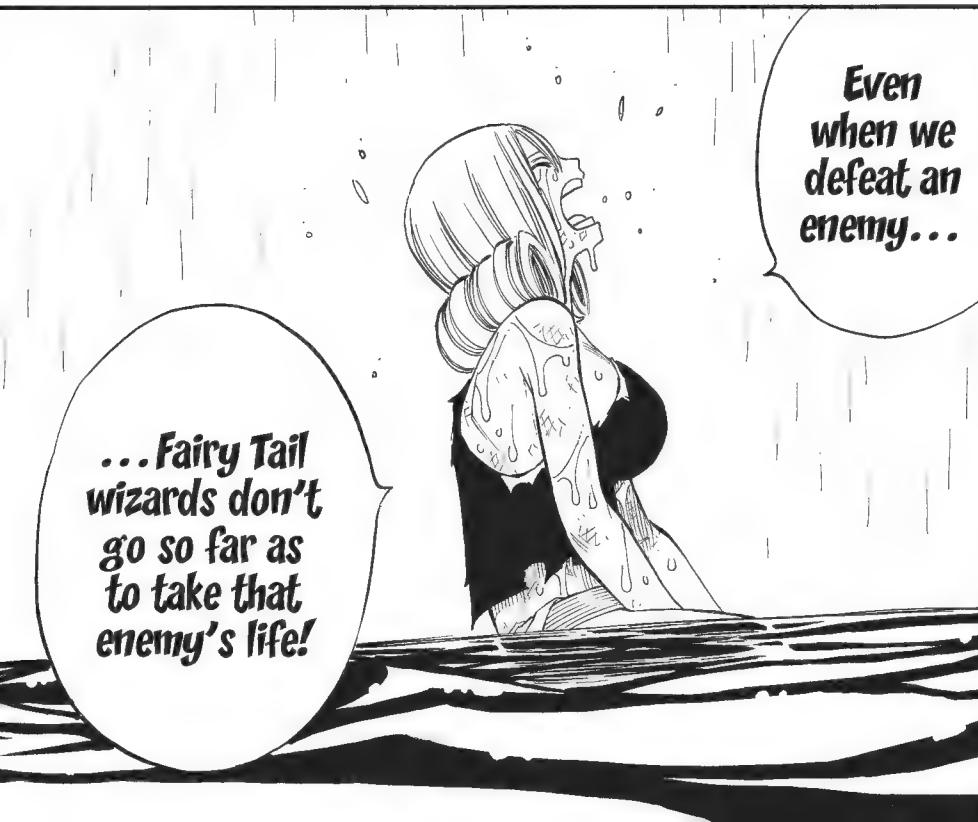
All three can live!

There is another path!



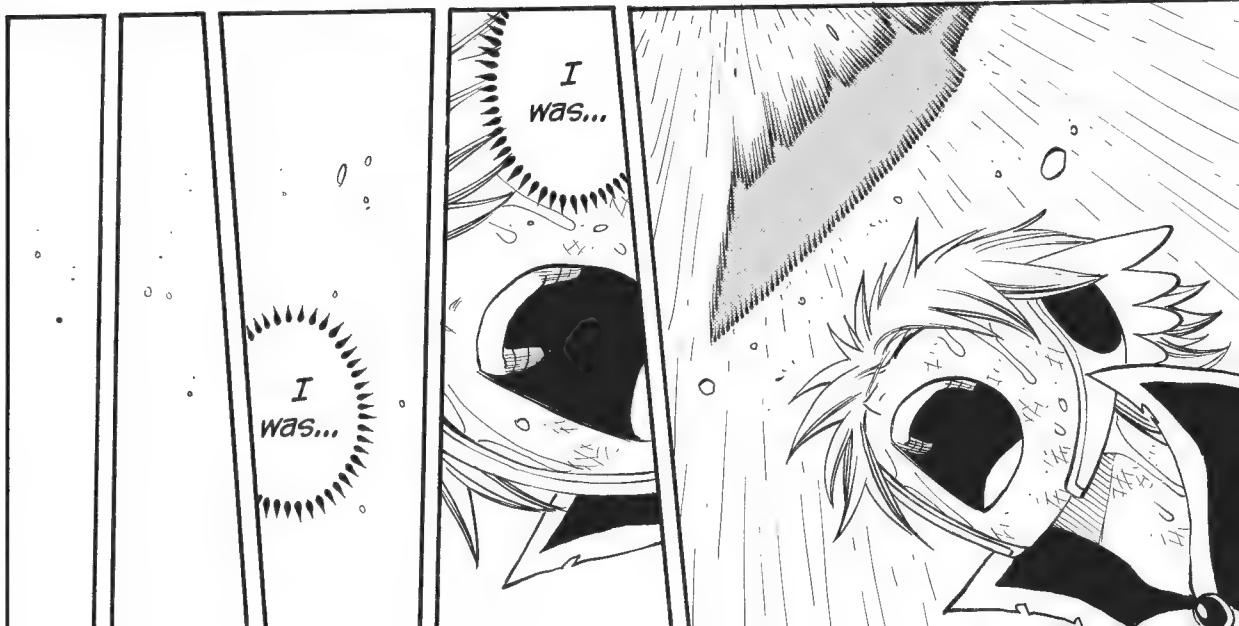
The only path left for the three of us is death!

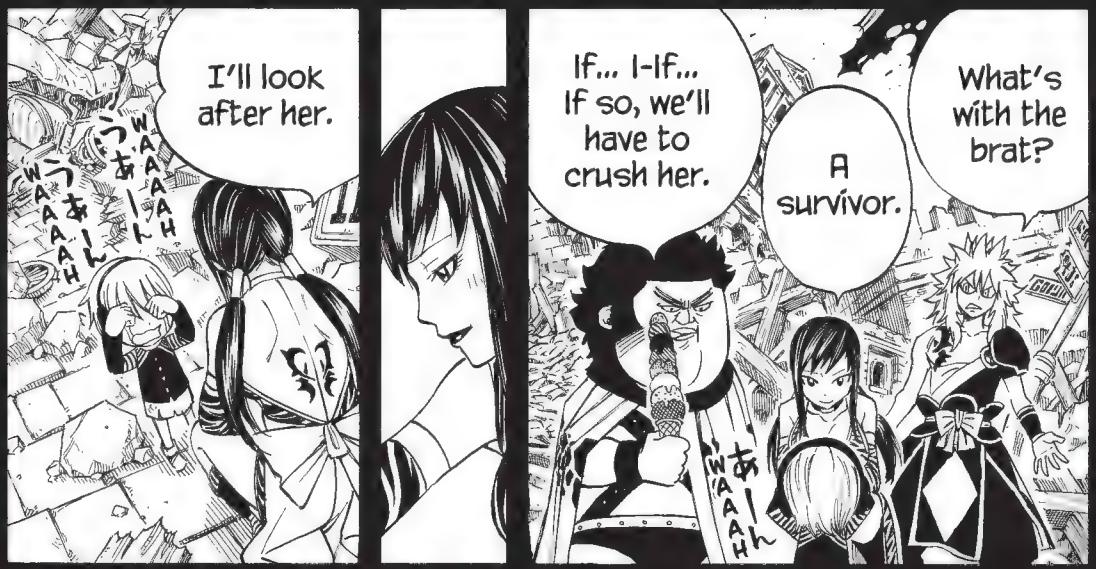
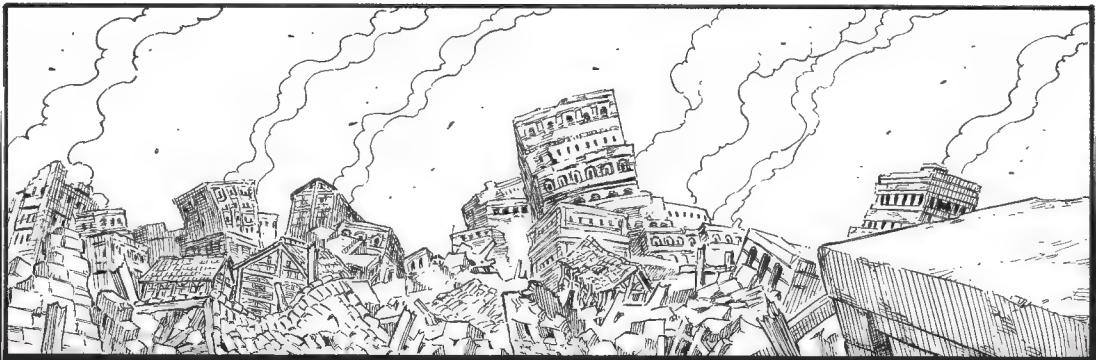
Even so, you intend to defy me?

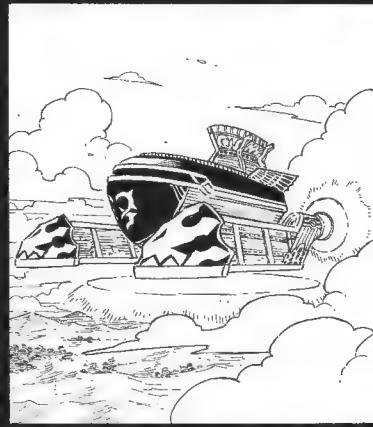


...Fairy Tail wizards don't go so far as to take that enemy's life!

Even when we defeat an enemy...





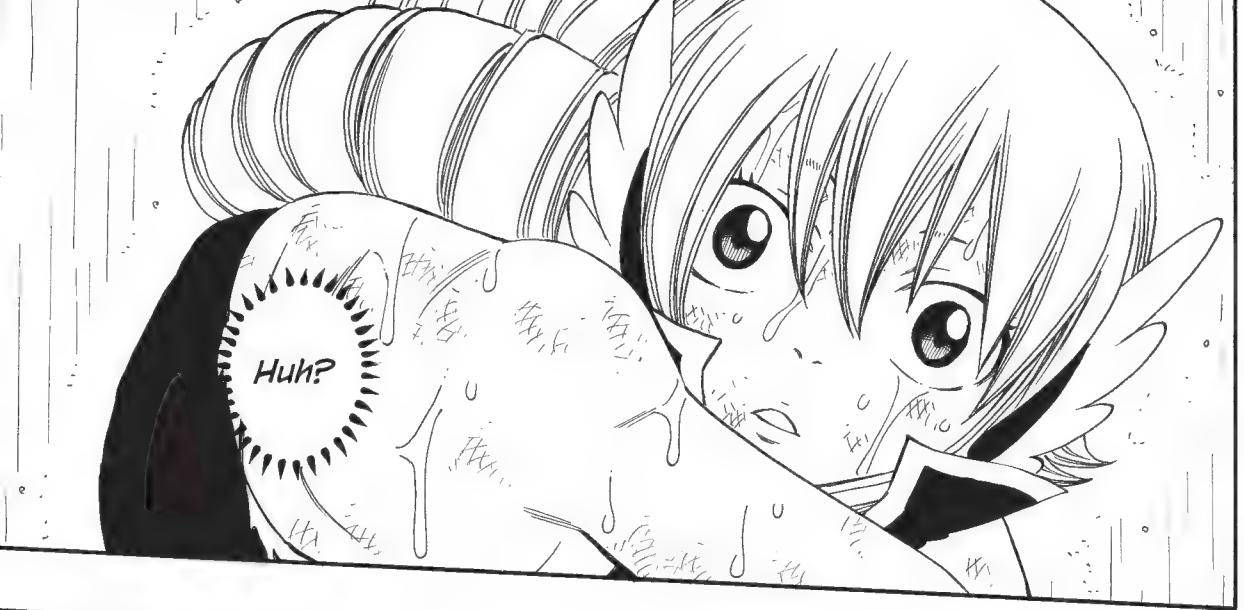




I was...

I was...





You have someone extremely important to you, too!!!!

You too have a smile all your own!!!!

...and somehow shared my emotions ??!

Could I have gone beyond just senses...

Juvia will live too!

How could such a thing...

Keep living...



You live  
for the  
one you  
love!!!!

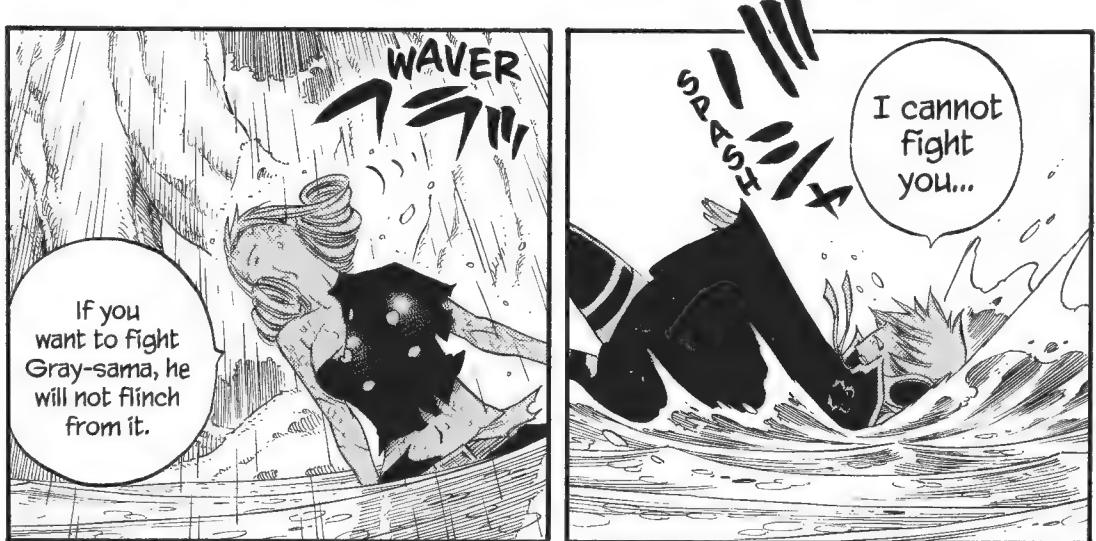
If both  
you and  
Juvia have  
love, then we  
have to go  
on living!!!!



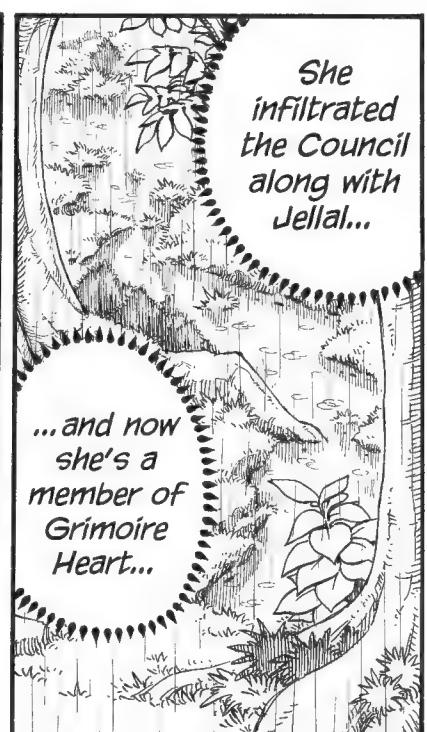
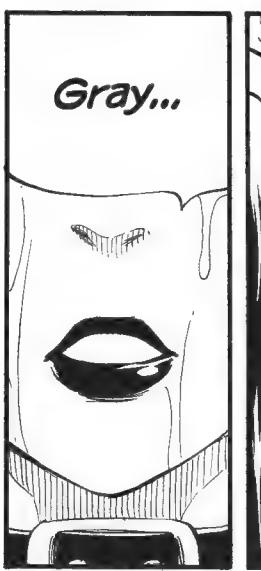
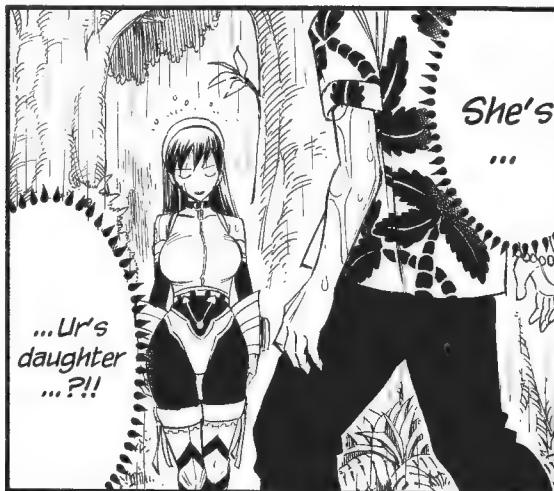


This  
emotion  
is...

They're  
tears of  
love and  
vitality.







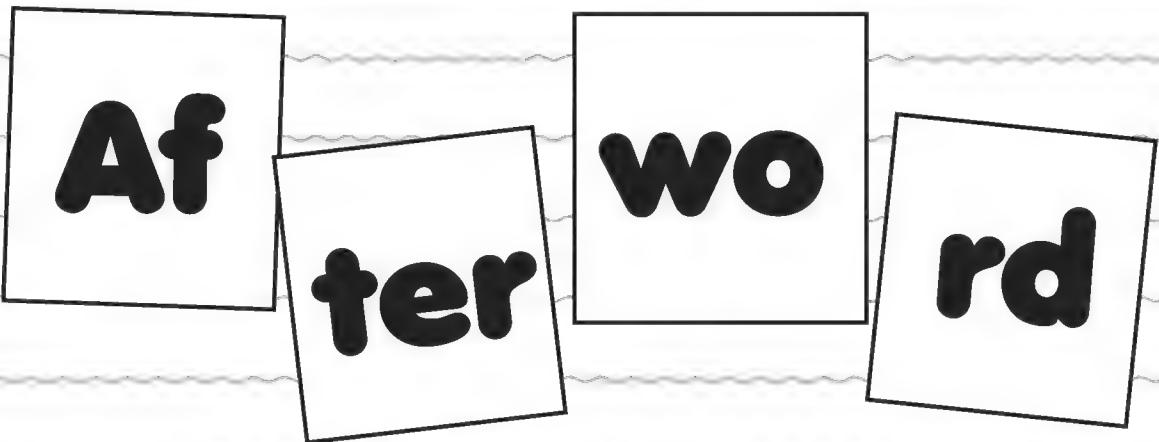


TO BE CONTINUED

**BONUS  
PAGES**

ハッピーハロウィン





This particular story arc is pretty long, huh? I guess my estimates were off. Usually a story arc takes about three volumes, but this time we've already gone through three volumes, and I'd say we're only about half finished with it, maybe. Hmm... Well, you could say that there are a lot more people involved this time, so the extra time is only natural, but also, things are going to heat up from here on out, so stay with us!! And I've got a really wild twist planned for the last scene of this one. Expect something big! I can't go into details, but it's one of those huge twists where the whole story, guild, and entire setting may be on the verge of changing. I can tell you that I'm chomping at the bit to draw it!

Changing the subject, I'm sure you've already noticed, but I don't have a home page, blog, Twitter account\* or anything. As much as I'd like to do one, I get the feeling that I wouldn't be able to continue it very long, so I never tried. Also, I've had this nagging anxiety over readers hearing from me in my own words directly. There's a certain influence that goes along with the words of famous people like creators such as myself and TV stars, sports personalities and politicians and such. I've always thought that I don't want to blurt out something irresponsible, you know? And when I think of that, it becomes more difficult for me to do it. Even so, there are a lot of people around me using Twitter, so I've had an itch to try it myself...but I don't know how it'll turn out. Still, if I were to do a blog or Twitter, I might have less time for drawing... By the way, right now, I spend nearly all of every week drawing manga.

\*Mashima-sensei has since signed up for Twitter (@hiro\_mashima) and is quite active.



Hey everybody! If you were a Plue, what kind of Plue would you be? Have you ever thought about that? Of course not, right? We expected that. But for today, we are doing a special, "What kind of Plue would you be" column! Sure, it's dumb, but it's a fun kind of dumb to think about! How you do it is simple! Figure out the number that is derived from your name! Let's take as an example the name of Fairy Tail's Japanese editor, Mr. Matsuki.

### 1.) Noriaki Matsuki

(First, write out your name on a piece of paper.)

### 2.) NORI AKI MATSUKI

↓↓↓↓↓↓↓↓↓↓↓↓  
4 5 8 9 1 1 9 3 1 0 9 1 1 9

Next, you assign numbers based on the order of the alphabet. The tens place doesn't matter for our purposes, so this is how the numbers would work.

A = 1, B = 2, C = 3, D = 4, E = 5,  
F = 6, G = 7, H = 8, I = 9, J = 0, K = 1,  
L = 2, M = 3, N = 4, O = 5, P = 6, Q = 7,  
R = 8, S = 9, T = 0, U = 1, V = 2, W = 3,  
X = 4, Y = 5, and Z = 6.

3.) 
$$\underbrace{4+5+8+9+1+1+9+3+1+0+9+1+1+9}_{\begin{array}{c} \\ \parallel \\ 61 \\ \parallel \\ 1 \end{array}}$$

Then you add up all the numbers. When you get the total, take the ones place digit (ignoring the tens place and higher), and that becomes your Plue number. In Mr. Matsuki's example, that number is 1. Now take your Plue number you got here and check out the next page! (Just turn the page!)

**Now, if you have some time to waste, give it a try!!**

# If-Plue 2

## 1. Normal Plue



You're a normal Plue. Yes, we know you're a dog who, for some reason, walks on two legs, but you're still a normal Plue. You are the same kind of Plue you see in the manga.

## 3. Sleeping Plue



Do you find yourself running late all the time these days? Even when you've turned from human into a Plue, you still sleep all the time!

## 5. ? Plue



Yes, it's nice to have a burning curiosity about all sorts of things, but that can also lead to trouble, so take care with it, okay?

## 7. Hungry Plue



Anyway, I suggest you just get a bite to eat. If you don't, it could spell trouble. You look like you could fade away. You are very compatible with Plue Number 2.

## 9. CosPlue



You are a Plue that loves snazzy clothing! You also blow through your money on it. You are always in pursuit of the ultimate fashion statement!

## 2. Eating Plue



Anyway, you really like to eat! You're happiest when you're munching down on something. Just be careful you don't become a fat Plue.

## 4. Happy?



Too bad (?), but for some reason, you're not a Plue but a Happy. That's pretty rare, so you can take some pride in that.

## 6. Dejected Plue



Maybe you're feeling downhearted, but you can't let it get the best of you! You'll turn out to be a fine, upstanding Plue! I know it! By the way, you really get along well with Plue Number 3!

## 8. Crying Plue



You have to be stronger! If you just keep crying, all the fun in life will run away from you! I'm sure you like to smile once in a while too, right?

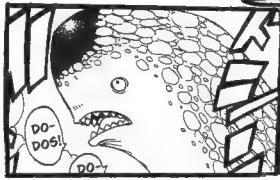
## 0. Dancing Plue



You are a Plue who loves to dance. When Lucy summons you, you can ease everyone's tension with your fancy footwork!

# The Bestiary of Sirius Island

## Doscadon



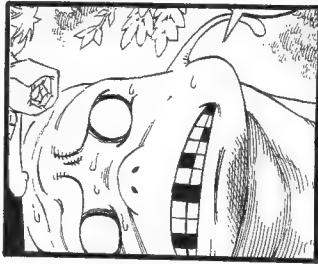
This is a giant carnivore that specializes in a head-butt attack. It crushes its prey with its head, then eats the meat.

## Quly



It's a native of the northern part of the island, but during winter months, it migrates to the south.

## Cubina Gamal



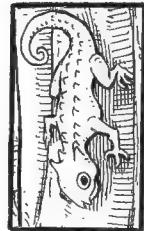
A huge herbivore 5-7 meters (16-23 feet) tall. There are rare instances where individuals can speak and understand human language.

## Clipper



A violent-tempered bird that inhabits Sirius Island. They attack in flocks.

## Bakshi



Lives in the trees or on the ground and tends to eat insects. It is unusual to catch sight of one.

## Budragos



This is considered a giant member of the pig family. There are large numbers of this species in Fiore as well.

## Sirius Squirrel



A rare member of the squirrel family that can only be found on Sirius Island. None of the world's biologists have ever seen it.

## Goromajiro



The exposed surfaces of its skin are covered in tough scales. When it is intent on battle, it can roll itself into a ball to attack.

# Spot the Differences!

This artwork below is just like page 124! But if you look really closely, you can see a few differences...



There are ten differences!! Can you find them all?

# Hourly Scheduler

## FAIRY TAIL Schedule

MON

TUE



WED

THU

FRI

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Copy this page and fill it in for yourself!

## ABOUT THE NAMING OF THE CHARACTERS 2

It may be late to do this since there are just so many characters now, but let's go for it anyway.

**Gajeel** --> Kajiru, the Japanese word for "to gnaw." The Japanese sound effect for his eating is "*gaji gaji*."

**Wendy** --> In the first concepts, Wendy was "Water Dragon." The Japanese word for the day in the middle of the week is Suiyōbi or "water day," then I got to the English Wednesday, and from there to Wendy.

**Carla (Sharuru or Charles in Japanese)** --> I think this was the name of a princess character in a book I read a long time ago. But in the West, there are a lot of countries where the name is male, so the name has changed in a bunch of countries.

**Fried** --> He was originally supposed to be named Albion. But the rest of the Raijin Tribe had longer names, so Fried's name was shortened to give it some balance. In his original concept, he attacked with archaic words, so his name was Furui-zo! ("It's old!"), shortened to Furi-zo! to Fried.

**Bickslow** --> It was a mash of "Big" and "Throw."

**Evergreen** --> It refers to trees that don't lose their leaves in the winter. Her color is green.

**Laxus** --> It's based on a unit of measurement for light, "Lux."

**Panther Lily** --> This is a play on the name of a famous character from a certain fairy tale.

**Juvia** --> I don't remember about this one, but I really, really love the name!

**Levy** --> She was just a background character at first, so I don't really remember. But I really like her!

**Lisanna** --> I just get the feeling that a name ending like xxx-anna makes it sound cute!

**Precht** --> From the literary scholar.

**Ultear** --> As mentioned in the books, she's "Ur's tear."

**Kain Hikaru** --> The nickname of someone who was a part of my staff.

**Rustyrose** --> It was a riff on the name of a cocktail.

**Merudy** --> This just sort of came to me. (Afterwards I realized it's the name of a character in an old RPG I used to play. I regret not realizing it.)

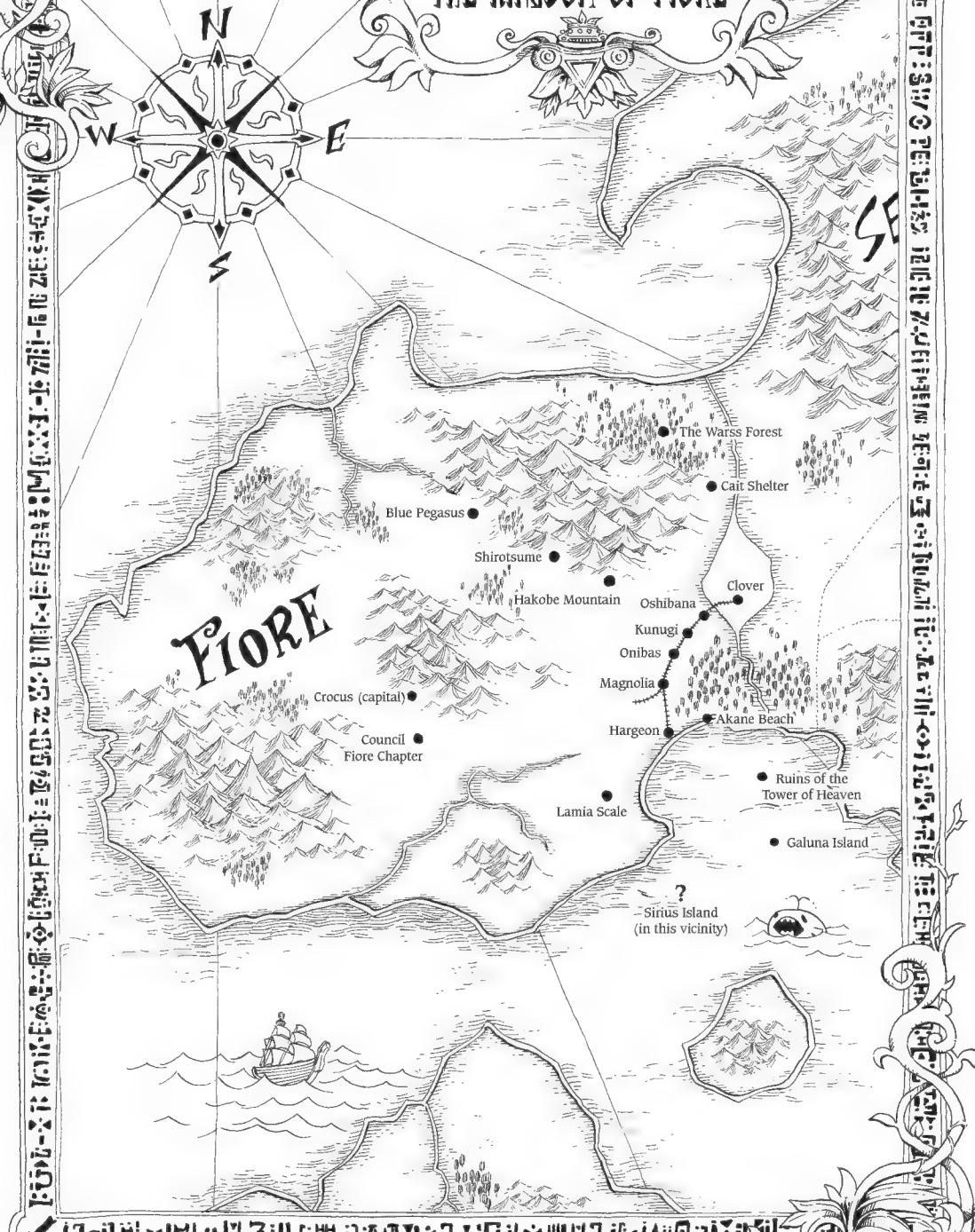
**Zancrow** --> I so don't remember about this name that it surprises even me!

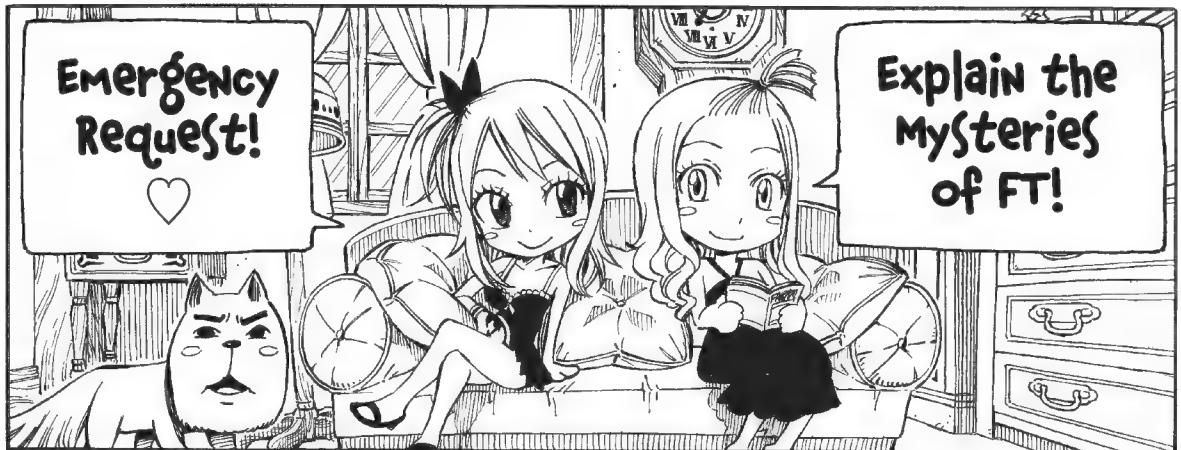
**Caprico** --> It's from Capricorn, the goat, the constellation.

**Azuma** --> When I was trying to think of a name, the TV celebrity Mikihisa Azuma just happened to come on.

Updated for December of the year X784.

## THE KINGDOM OF FIORE





At Mirajane's House...



: Wow!! Mirajane's house!!



: Welcome, Lucy!



**Lucy:** Oh! You own a dog?



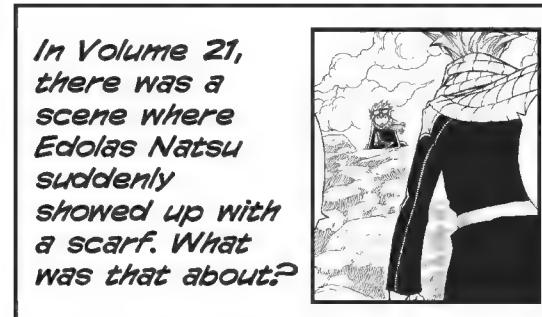
**Mira:** He's a stray, though.



: If you own him, you can't call him a stray, right?



**Mira:** Let's get right off to our question corner, shall we?



**Lucy:** That question... There are a lot of people pointing that out, huh?



**Mira:** It was nothing more than a mistake, right?



**Lucy:** Well manga creators are human too. I suppose there are times when they space out and make some mistakes.

**Mira:** Like when he forgets to draw your clothes, Lucy.



: I kind of wonder why a pro would be doing that.

**Mira:** Speaking of questioning the professionalism of creators, there's this!

*In Volume 21, there was a scene where Edolas Natsu suddenly showed up with a scarf. What was that about?*



**Lucy:** Oh, no...!!

**Mira:** A lot of details being pointed out, hm?

**Lucy:** Another mistake?



: No. We actually can make up an excuse for that.



: You shouldn't be saying, "excuse"...

**Mira:** The people of the Edolas Fairy Tail don't actually have guild marks on their bodies. That's why she moved her mark to a place where it wouldn't stand out. How's that?

Continued from the left-hand page. ↓

**Lucy:** Okay, we'll just call that the reason.

**Mira:** There are really a lot of other detail mistakes that haven't been pointed out yet, but if we just keep quiet, nobody will ever know, so we'll not say a word!

**Lucy:** Y-Yeah, I guess...

**Mira:** And the next question.

**IF Cana failed the S-Class test four times, who were the wizards who managed to pass the test?**

**Lucy:** I want to know that too!

**Mira:** Yes... Actually the truth of that is a little complicated, so let's look at a chart.

Test Year	Passed the Test	Cana Takes Part
X784	Still in Progress	
X783	No Wizard Passed	
X782	Mystogan	
X781	Mirajane (16 years old)	
X780	Erza (15 years old)	
X779	No Wizard Passed	
X778	Laxus (17 years old)	
X???	Gildarts	

**Lucy:** Really?

**Mira:** Looking at it like this, I'm reminded that I passed the year before we lost Lisanna...

**Lucy:** And there are times when no wizard passed, huh?

**Mira:** That's right. And a number of people passed between Gildarts and Laxus, but for various reasons, they're not in the guild now.

**Lucy:** Looking at their ages at the time, we don't know how old Gildarts was, but Erza was just 15...?

**Mira:** Right! She holds the record for youngest!

**Lucy:** That's pretty amazing...



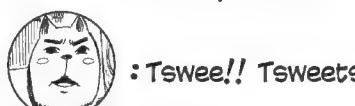
: Tswee!! Tswee!!



: !!

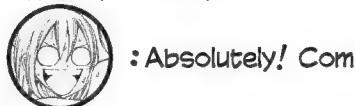
**Mira:** Oh, my... There you are again!

**Lucy:** L-Listen, Mira-san, that bark is really weird!



: Tswee!! Tsweetsuu!!

**Mira:** Really?



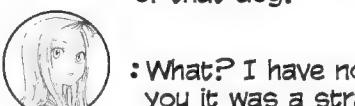
: Absolutely! Completely weird!!

**Mira:** I think he's better than a Lucy who barks out, "Mountain Lion Pon!"

**Lucy:** That isn't any kind of a bark!

**Mira:** Here! Here, little doggy!

**Lucy:** I'm just going to ask this, but what's the **breed name** of that dog?



: What? I have no idea. I told you it was a stray, right? It just came to my place on its own.

**Lucy:** So it really was a stray...? (sigh)

Continued on the right-hand page. ↑

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics  
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

# FAIRY GUILD d'ART

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!



▲ The second piece of art from Taiwan! Her skirt has a keyboard pattern! ♪

▲ This time, there were two pieces of work from Taiwan! Natsu's face is great!

▲ There's a ribbon in Natsu's hair! It looks better than expected.

▲ There seem to be a lot of people who are very concerned about where the relationship of these two is going.



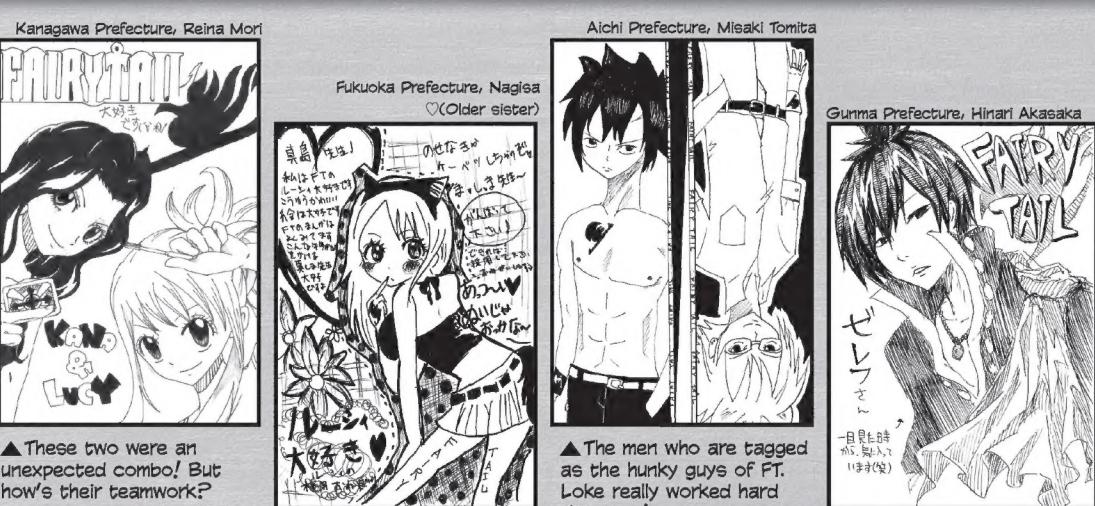
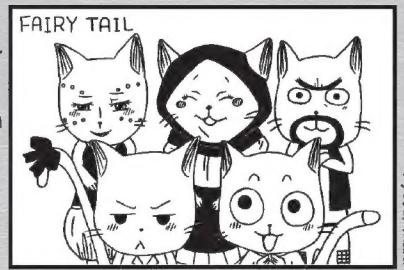
◀ Oh! It's cut-out art! Wonderful!!

By sending in letters or postcards you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code and any other information you include to the author as is. Please keep that in mind.



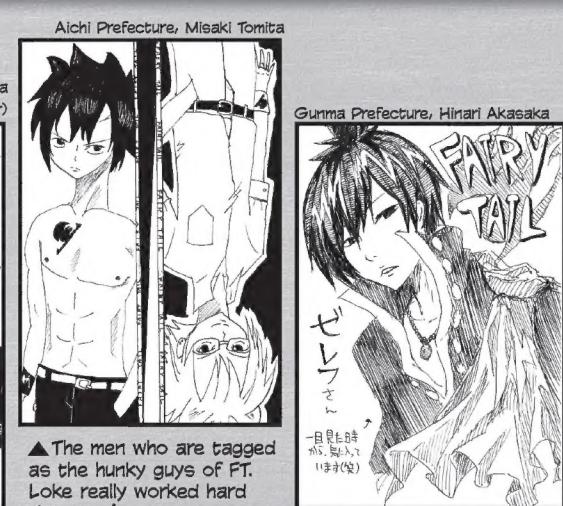
◀ Whoa! Whoa! I let a laugh slip out...just barely!

Happy, Carla and their families. Will we see them again?



▲ These two were an unexpected combo! But how's their teamwork?

▲ It's a Lucy fan! Thank you so much!



▲ The men who are tagged as the hunky guys of FT. Loke really worked hard this time!

▲ This is good! As always, Zeref is really popular, but he didn't really have a part this volume, huh?



▲ Juvia played a huge part this time, didn't she?

▲ Ha haaa! Everybody with Happy's face!!

▲ Long time, no see! Is everybody doing good?

▲ Thanks for the really cute picture of Wendy!

FROM HIRO MASHIMA



On the occasion of the Great Tohoku Earthquake, I would like to offer my support and condolences to anyone affected by the tragedy. I have made arrangements for any royalties I may receive (any money sent to me) from the sale of Japanese Volume 26, in both normal and special editions, to be sent to aid the victims of the disaster. This note is to tell those who bought Volume 26 where their money is going and to send my fervent wishes that smiles come back to those who are suffering as soon as possible.

Hiro Mashima

4/18/2011

# Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

## Page 59, Six hours

The word for six hours in Japanese is *roku-jikan*. The word for six letters is *roku-ji*. So there was a clue (aside from simply the number 6) in Makarov's instructions as to the location of the grave. However, there was no good way to get the similarities across in the English version, since English does not use as great a variety of terms to count different things, such as hours or letters.

## Page 67, Curse of Vengeance

The original Japanese refers to a specific vengeance curse called *ushi no koku mairi*. This is a trip to perform a rite during what is called the "hour of the ox" in ancient Japan, somewhere between 1 and 3 a.m., a time devoted to spirits. In modern Japanese folklore, it's usually depicted by showing a person with candles strapped to his or her forehead holding a doll made of straw, which represents the one to be cursed. The person then nails the doll to a tree to deliver the curse.

## Page 71, Do-Doskoi

*Dosukoi* (pronounced *doskoi*) is a shout for which I've never heard a proper meaning. Traditionally, it's shouted at sumo matches as a taunt or an instigation from one side to the other. It can also be thought of as a wish for one to do one's best (or fight hard).



*Fairy Tail* volume 27 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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